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LAST WEEK'S
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SATURDAY OCTOBER 15 1988

'Too young to go' Thatcher claims the common ground

Tories chant for ten more years

- Mrs Margaret Thatcher was cheered after she told the party conference that the Conservatives had taken over the common ground of politics
- In a signal of a major development of policy, Mrs Thatcher pledged to combine economic growth and industrial development with a clean environment
- Conservatives were the natural party of government, ministers said, predicting they would dominate the next decade of British politics
- "If the IRA think that they can weary us or frighten us, they have made a terrible miscalculation... this Government will never surrender to the IRA," she said

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

The Tory conference yesterday cheered Mrs Margaret Thatcher and chanted "ten more years" after she claimed that the Conservatives had taken over the common ground of politics and pledged herself to a worldwide effort on "green" issues.

Ministers said last night that the Conservatives had underlined their position as the natural party of government and predicted they would

dominate the next decade of British politics.

After Mrs Thatcher had insisted that the Conservatives were still setting the pace of politics and that she was "too young" (she is 63) to put her feet up, her colleagues interpreted that as a signal that she would be carrying on well past the next election.

In her speech Mrs Thatcher countered assaults on the "one-way" materialist society by Mr Neil Kinnock, saying that the Conservative government had created not a selfish society but a generous society. She strenuously supported the Chancellor of the Exchequer's policies to contain inflation and the return to the attack on European federalists, saying that she had not struggled to defeat socialism in Britain to see it creep in by the backdoor from Brussels.

In an emotional passage after a security-dominated week on the Tories' return to Brighton for the first time since the IRA bombing in 1984, the Prime Minister insisted: "If the IRA think that they can weary us or frighten us, they have made a terrible miscalculation... this Government will never surrender to the IRA, never."

She paid a pointed tribute to the SAS men who killed the IRA active service unit in Gibraltar, saying with emphasis: "We thank the security forces who had the guts to go to Gibraltar to give evidence to the inquest, demonstrating conclusively that they acted at all times within the law and to save lives."

In the freshest passage of her speech, and the one which drew the loudest applause, Mrs Thatcher pledged the Tories to combine economic growth and industrial development with a clean environment, building on her recent speech to the Royal

Society and underlining that that was not a one-off but the signal for a major development of government policy.

Part of that policy, she

The Government is to increase payments to pensioners and other benefit recipients following the rise to 5.9 per cent in the inflation rate last month, the highest for three years.

The single person's state retirement pension will rise by £2.45 to £43.60 and the married couple's pension by £3.90 to £69.80 from April. Increases of £1.85 and £2.95 had been planned.

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signalled, will be a new focus on nuclear energy.

She told the conference: "The choice facing us is not industrial development or a clean environment. To survive we need both."

She added: "It is we Conservatives who are not merely friends of the Earth - we are its guardians and trustees for generations to come."

She defended her Government's record on the environment and said they were well placed to take the lead with other governments in practical efforts to protect the wider world.

"We will work with them to end the destruction of the world's forests. We shall direct more of our overseas aid to help poor countries to protect their trees and plant new ones."

After a conference season which has been notable for the efforts of other parties to accommodate themselves to an agenda set by Thatcherism, the Prime Minister claimed:

"The Conservative Party occupies the common ground of British politics. Indeed, we staked out that ground."

"It is where the great majority of the British people have pitched their tents. And so it has fallen to us to lead Britain into the 1990s. And, who knows, beyond."

Answering Mr Kinnock's charges of materialism, Mrs Thatcher said that the economic miracle achieved by the Conservatives had meant more to spend on social services and encouraged the best in human nature, people's natural desire to provide for themselves.

On the economy she issued a warning that too much buying had been paid for by too much borrowing. She echoed Mr Nigel Lawson by saying with great emphasis that they would continue to keep a firm grip on public spending.

On law and order, she expressed the hope that judges would make use of the stiffer penalties for violent crime now available. On defence she said that the West must not relax its guard at the "first sign of hope" in the Soviet Union.

Mrs Thatcher was given a nine-minute ovation despite her repeated attempts to damp down the enthusiasm of the cheering, flag-waving audience.

As representatives stomped their feet and chanted "ten more years", others held up placards with the message: "Dream ticket 1988. Thatcher and Bush".

Representatives afterwards felt that she had given them the battle cry to lead them towards the millennium. Cabinet ministers said that the speech had indicated that she spoke for the values and principles not just of the audience but of the British people.



New era: The Prime Minister acknowledging her ovation at the Conservative conference.

Publisher will sue pirates of MI5 book

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent

Heinemann, the publisher of *Spycatcher*, said it would take legal action yesterday against any publishing company that tried to pirate the text of the book and sell it in the UK.

Heinemann UK, whose Australian company published Mr Peter Wright's memoirs, has carefully studied the judgement of the five law lords on Thursday.

Miss Helen Fraser, for the publishers, said the judgement on *Spycatcher*'s copyright appeared to be in contravention of the international copyright convention to which Britain was a signatory.

Heinemann does not believe that any "reputable publisher" would pirate the book. But anyone who tried to publish their own version of *Spycatcher* would be taken to court.

Heinemann UK has also decided that the judgement made it clear that it could not go ahead with plans to publish 200,000 copies of the book in Britain. All copies will instead be imported from Europe and printed by Heinemann Australia.

Yesterday British booksellers ordered more than 70,000 copies of the former MI5 agent's memoirs from European distributors.

About 125,000 copies, including hardbacks, have already been sold in Europe. The book has been available in the UK in small, independent bookshops.

Although Heinemann UK Continued on page 16, col 2

Fear over Haughey's health

Concern was mounting in Dublin last night over the health of Mr Charles Haughey, the Prime Minister, after he was admitted to hospital for the third time in a week.

A government spokesman said that he was admitted suffering from a "severe respiratory infection". A Cabinet meeting scheduled for yesterday morning was cancelled.

Mr Haughey, aged 63, was only discharged on Thursday from the Mater Hospital in Dublin after overnight treatment for a kidney stone problem.

On discharge he was reported to have been given "a clean bill of health". He was also in the hospital earlier in the week.

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Scot named chairman of the Tate

By Patrick O'Hanlon

Mr Denis Stevenson, CBE, a successful Scottish businessman, is to become chairman of the Tate Gallery, London.

He will take up his post in January, succeeding Mr Richard Rogers, who has held the post for four years, and who retires at the end of the year.

Mr Stevenson, aged 43, has been involved in public and voluntary life for many years.

He is a former chairman of the Intermediate Technology Group, a Third World charity, and was from 1973 to 1981 chairman of the National Association of Youth Clubs.

He has been chairman of the Peterlee and Aycliffe new town corporations in Northumberland, and was until last

year a director of both Tyne Tees Television and the London Docklands Development Corporation.

Born and brought up in Edinburgh, he lives with his wife and four sons in London and Suffolk, and has a strong interest in music. He is chairman of the SRU Group, a private company which he

set up in 1972, specializing in consultancy, office development and high technology.

The Tate has said that his business acumen made him a prime candidate for the chairmanship of the gallery. "He is exactly the right man for the job," Mr Nicholas Serota, the Tate's new director, said last night.

Scotland's nurses get extra £12m

By Jill Sherman
Social Services Correspondent

Nurses in Scotland are to get an extra £12.7 million to fully fund their pay award.

The extra cash was announced by Mr Michael Forsyth, Health Minister at the Scottish Office, who said: "This announcement delivers our promise to fully fund this year's nurses' pay increase."

The new money is on top of the £92 million provided to meet the cost of the review body awards in Scotland.

Auxiliaries will receive increases of between 7.6 and 9.5 per cent, while those on the higher scale will receive between 19 and 33 per cent.

In Northern Ireland, the Government yesterday announced a further £4.5m increase, also to fully fund the nurses' pay award.

Labour attacks 'vindicated'

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock said last night that Mrs Thatcher's "Brighton" speech had vindicated his criticism of Tory policies. It showed that he had hit a "raw nerve" with his attack last week on the selfish creed of Conservatism.

The Labour leader said that although Mrs Thatcher had spent a great deal of the speech trying to knock his accusations, she had failed.

He called it a "tired replay speech", containing no new ideas. "The nation had heard it all before," he said.

Mr Kinnock told the Lab-

our Party conference in Blackpool last week that the Conservative creed involved "no number other than one, no person other than me, and no time other than now".

He also attacked the Government over inflation, which, he said, was as much as three times as high as those of Britain's main competitors, and criticized the Chancellor whose policies, he said, resulted in a losing hand for homebuyers and businesses.

Mr Michael Meacher, Labour's spokesman on employment, said yesterday that

inflation was set to move towards 7 per cent by the end of the year.

He said the 5.9 per cent figure for September did not include last month's mortgage interest rate rises.

Britain's inflation rate, excluding mortgage interest, was 5.2 per cent, the same as Italy but higher than France, which has 2.8 per cent, Germany with 1.2 per cent, Japan with 0.3 per cent and the United States and Canada with 4 per cent.

Mr Meacher said that credit controls were needed.

Day the Queen's life was put at risk

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent

Lord Mason, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland in the last Labour Government, admitted for the first time last night that a risk was taken with the lives of the Queen, Prince Philip and Prince Andrew when they visited Ulster in the 1977 Jubilee year. A bomb exploded four hours after the royal party left the New University of Ulster.

"We were very lucky," Lord Mason said. The IRA said the bomb had failed to go off at the scheduled time because they were still unfamiliar with the timing devices. A huge security operation had already been carried out at the university after a bomb had been found several days before the visit.

Last night Lord Mason, interviewed on a BBC2 Northern Ireland programme, *The View from the Castle*,

said: "On the morning of the Coleraine visit (August 10 1977) I received a phone call in the lounge of the Royal Yacht Britannia advising me that a second device had been planted."

The security authorities confirmed that the IRA claim had been validated by a recognised code word. Prince Philip overheard the phone conversation and asked what would be done. Lord Mason said: "Both the Chief Constable and the GOC (General Officer Commanding in Northern Ireland) were in the air on their way to the campus and the Prime Minister could not be contacted. So I had to make the decision alone. I weighed the risks very carefully indeed."

He decided that the planned royal walkabout and garden party at the university, in Coleraine, should go ahead and that all members of the royal party should attend, including the young Prince Andrew. "We had swept that

university clean. We had checked every pipe and every air-duct. We had even removed and checked every single book in the library and units of soldiers, with fixed bayonets, had checked every inch of the route", Lord Mason said.

He said it was a very nervous party which transferred to a helicopter which brought them ashore. Several days after the bomb explosion, the IRA claimed that at one point it had been ticking away 3ft below a television camera team.

Before the Queen's visit, the IRA had warned that she would be in danger, in an attempt to persuade the authorities to call off the trip. Lord Mason said he took the risk so that the visit would not be seen as "a scurrying into and out of the province."

According to the BBC programme, Buckingham Palace - which had no comment to make last night - reluctantly agreed.

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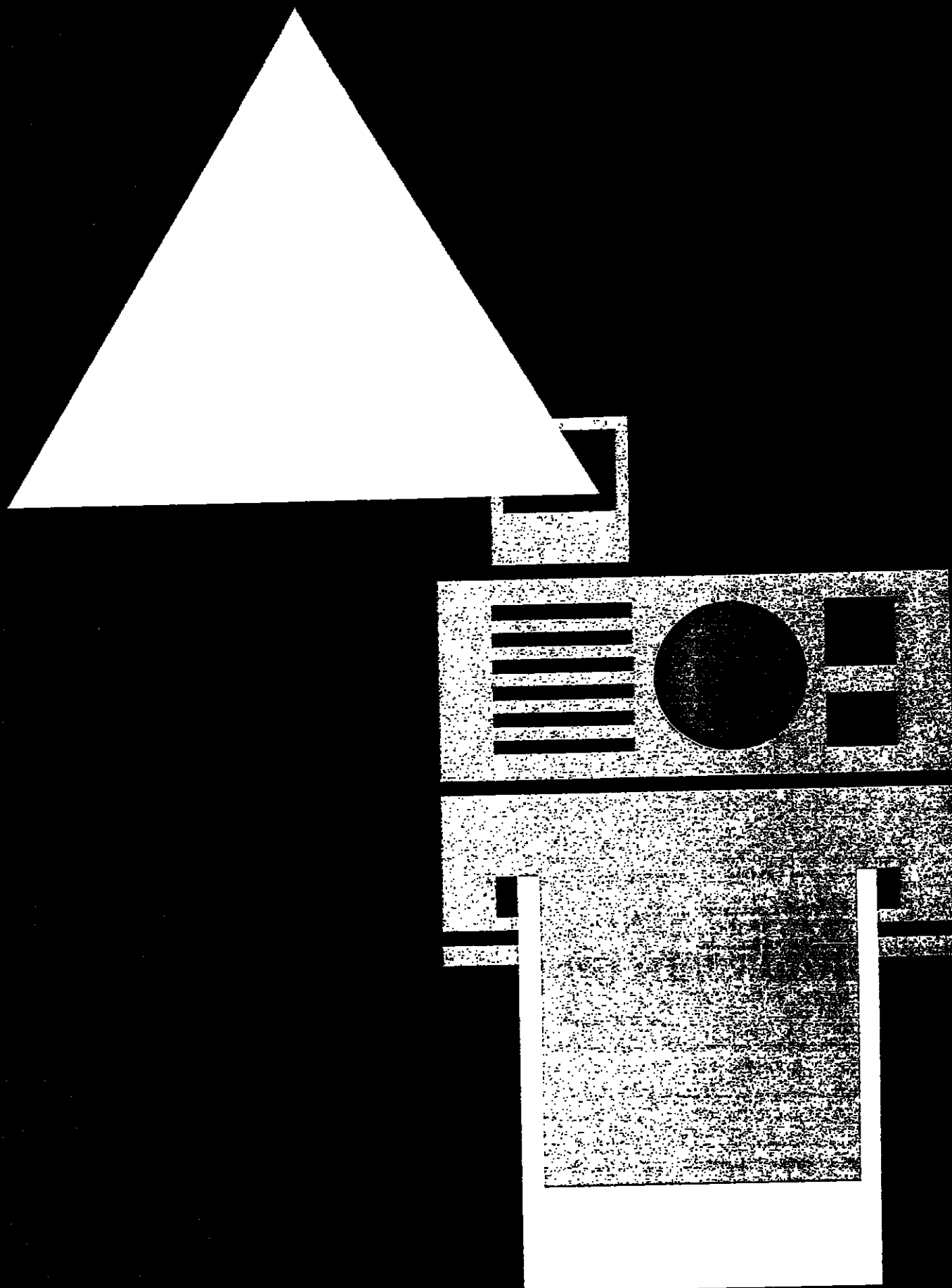
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The abattoir ambush

Robbers shot dead by police may have been high on drugs

By Michael Horsnell

Two robbers shot dead by police during an attempted £120,000 armed robbery may have been high on cannabis, an inquest was told yesterday.

Major Andrew Clamworthy, a police forensic scientist, said tests for the drug on the bodies were strongly positive. He said cannabis could have given the robbers, who failed to surrender when challenged by police, Dutch courage. While cannabis, like alcohol, was a depressant drug, it produced an initial effect of euphoria and elation.

It was not possible, he said, to determine exactly when the cannabis had been taken. The robbers could have taken the drug at 6am — two hours before the attempted robbery — or at 8pm the night before.

Professor James Cameron, a pathologist, told the court the two men died instantly and suffered no pain. Michael Flynn received two gunshot wounds in his back, one of the bullets passing through his heart. Nicholas Payne suffered two gunshot wounds, one bullet hitting him in the elbow and upper arm and the other in the chin and spine.

Earlier, a Securicor delivery driver told the inquest that a police marksman saved his life when he shot the two men.

Mr James Anker, aged 61, was re-living the moment when a robber pointed a pump-action shotgun at him and threatened to blow off his legs after he had been confronted by three men wearing balaclavas.

The incident happened when he had got out of his van at an abattoir in Plumstead, south London, to deliver the weekly payroll in July last year.

He told the inquest at Lambeth he had taken the wages from the rear chute of his van, which he had parked in a loading bay at the abattoir, and was preparing to go up steps to deliver the money.

"I heard running and voices

shouting 'drop it, you bastard.' It was a shock," Mr Anker said. "I turned round to see what the noise was and saw three men wearing balaclava masks running from the front of the van towards me. They came so quickly."

"The first one, who had a dark blue or black balaclava with red trim, came up to me holding a big long-barrelled shotgun," Mr Anker, who identified the weapon in court as a pump-action shotgun, said.

"He held it in front of him and pointed at me and said 'drop it.' He said the gunman was two and a half feet away from him."

"Another one, also wearing a dark balaclava and who was

I was frightened. I was convinced he was going to shoot. Then I heard the police...

carrying a handgun, also came round my right-hand side and poked the gun in my ribs," Mr Anker said. He identified that weapon in court as a Magnum revolver.

"The one with the shotgun pointed the gun at my legs and either him or the one behind him said 'unload the van or we will blow your legs away.'"

"He really meant it and was absolutely menacing and ruthless."

"I was frightened. I was convinced he was going to shoot," Mr Anker said. The next thing he heard was the sound of policemen approaching.

Sir Montague Levine, the coroner, asked Mr Anker if he had seen the shooting, and he replied: "No."

Sir Montague asked: "Between the sound of 'police, stand still' and the shooting, how long elapsed?"

Mr Anker replied: "It must have been about 10 to 12 seconds."

The men who died were Flynn, aged 24, of Catford, south London, and Payne, aged 29, of Erith, Kent.

Cross-examined by Mr Patrick O'Connor, counsel for the dead men's families, Mr Anker said the raid was the fourteenth time he had been held up during the 12 years he had worked as a wages delivery driver.

In previous hold-ups he had had his shoulder broken, a leg broken, ammonia squirted in his face and he had been shot at but not wounded. He had since moved to another job with the firm.

Mr Michael Austin-Smith, counsel for the Metropolitan Police, said: "There has been a lot of criticism of the police officer who fired the shots."

Mr Anker answered: "I think he saved my life."

Sir Montague said everyone in the court would wish to praise Mr Anker's bravery.

Earlier, PC Stephen Stokes, a dog handler who had been waiting unarmed in the abattoir yard in a van with armed members of Scotland Yard's D11 firearms unit, agreed that the time between the shouting warning to the gunmen and the five shots was "a second or less".

The jury has been told how PC Anthony Long, aged 30, shot dead the two robbers in a burst of five shots which lasted two and three quarters seconds with a 9mm Browning pistol.

The officer was one of the first to jump out of a hired police vehicle which had parked at the abattoir to await the robbers after a tip-off.

PC Long said in evidence that he found himself in a situation which required immediate action if he were to save the lives of the two guards in the Securicor van and those of his colleagues.

The hearing continues on Monday.

Gainsboroughs gather to be auctioned



Sotheby's porters with five of the six Gainsboroughs, including the portrait of Mrs Drummond, that are to be sold next month (Photograph: Graham Wood).

A fitting finale to Gainsborough's bicentennial year will be the sale at Sotheby's on November 16 of the largest single group of paintings by Thomas Gainsborough for at least a generation (Sarah Jane Checkland writes). The five paintings, out of six on sale, were sent by a descendant of Sir Joseph Robinson (1840-1929), the South African mining millionaire. They include a landscape, a family portrait of Mr and Mrs Dehany and their daughter, and three single portraits — the most desirable of all being the portrait of Mrs Drummond, which is offered with an estimate of more than £1 million. Had it not been for a change of heart

by Sir Joseph Robinson 60 years ago, the group could well have been dispersed. For in 1923 he decided to sell his collection at Christie's. "When he saw the paintings again just before the sale, he was so taken with them, he tried to cancel the whole thing. Christie's refused, so he insisted on enormously high reserves, and none actually sold," Mr James Miller, of Sotheby's, said. Soon they were back in store again, passing to a daughter after his death. Since then, they have been in South Africa and Switzerland, and are being sold by a descendant, who opted to sell at Sotheby's instead. *Salerom, page 13*

More cellphone complaints

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

Britain's cellular telephone network operators are about to come under fire again, with the publication next week of a survey that will show further dissatisfaction with the service.

The Telecommunications Users' Association carried out the survey among its 750 corporate members.

Many of the complaints concern calls failing to connect, congestion on the system, the cost of using it and

the way in which customers are billed.

The TUA may now approach Ofel, the Government's telecommunications watchdog, with the results of the survey.

Ofel said yesterday that it was carrying out its own investigation of complaints about the service, and had received performance reports from Vodafone and British Telecom, the two main network operators. Professor

Bryan Carsberg, director general of Ofel, has promised action if a "significant problem" is shown.

Nokia-Mobira, a Finnish-owned Cambridge-based telephone manufacturer, said yesterday that billing tapes prepared for it by a bureau had contained a computer error, leading to customers being charged 100 times the true amount. The error had been countered by banks almost immediately, however.

IN NEXT WEEK'S TIMES

Does John Paul see a place for women?

● Pope John Paul II is celebrating 10 years in office at a time when women are clamouring for a greater role in the church.

● They are divided about his influence. Some are inspired by his warm personality and charisma. Others look about them and see the effect of his unbending traditional views.

● Yesterday's £4,000 prize was unclaimed, leaving £262,000 in the Portfolio Accumulator Fund. *Prices: page 23*



● Next week *The Times* asks: what has the Pope done for the women in his flock?

Portfolio
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Accumulator

Irish trio 'used false names'

By Howard Foster

Three suspected Irish terrorists accused of conspiring to murder Mr Tom King had spent part of the three months before their arrest camping at sites around London and the West Country using false names, Winchester Crown Court was told yesterday.

John McCann, aged 24, and Martina Shanahan, aged 22, both of Dublin, and Finbar Cullen, aged 27, of Maynooth, Co Kildare, deny conspiring to murder the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and other people between May 1 and August 31 last year.

The day before the trio were arrested, witnesses at a campsite at Wookey Hole in Somerset reported overhearing an argument between an Irish woman and an Irishman.

One witness told the court that she had overheard the woman saying: "How long have we got?"

A man replied: "About five months and that will be it." The witness later identified Mr McCann as being a man she had seen at the tent.

When police arrested Mr McCann at the Homestead caravan site at Wookey Hole they found a money belt containing £4,300 in £50 notes and £200 in £20 notes.

Mr Alan Rawley, QC, for the prosecution, said that three people had booked into the Eastway Cycle Circuit camp site in east London as early as May 30 1987, using the name of Burke.

The hearing continues on Monday.

Court of Session upholds ban on publication

By Kerry Gill

A Scottish judge yesterday ruled that a ban on publication of a book on alleged Nazi war criminals, *Occupation: Nazi Hunter*, by Mr Efraim Zuroff, should remain in force.

The book's publishers, Ashford Press Publishing, of Sheffield, Hampshire, immediately responded by saying that publication — due on Monday — would not take place. Thousands of copies will have to be recalled from distributors.

A spokesman said the com-

pany was not in a financial position to pursue the matter through the courts, nor could it afford to delete parts of the book covered by the court order. The latest ruling would mean the end of Ashford's interest in the book.

Lord Cowie said at the Court of Session in Edinburgh that publication of the book could seriously prejudice a defamation action being brought by Mr Antony Gecce, who is featured in the book, against Times Newspapers Ltd, publishers of *The Times*.

His decision, taken in Scotland's supreme civil court, continues a ban granted last month by Lord Kirkwood against the publishers.

Mr Gecce, aged 72, of Moston Terrace, Edinburgh, asked for an interim interdict on three grounds: that passages in the book defamed him; that it interfered with his action against Times Newspapers and that it could prejudice any future criminal proceedings against him.

Lord Cowie said he rejected the first and third grounds, but

accepted that it would interfere with Mr Gecce's action against Times Newspapers.

"It seems to me that if the allegations in the book are calculated, whether intentionally or not, to prejudice his case against Times Newspapers by influencing against him witnesses who may give evidence in that action, that would amount to an improper and unwarrantable interference with the conduct of that action and can be restrained by interdict."

Lord Cowie, after reading

Nazi book ruling

School governors

By David Tytler, Education Editor

Parents' applications exceed places

Parent power has finally come to Britain's schools. Thousands of parents have been fighting elections for places on the new governing bodies elected this month which will have a real say in the way schools are run, controlling finance, discipline and the hiring and firing of staff.

Before the reforms of the 1986 Education Act, many schools had great difficulty in finding sufficient parents to fill vacancies: now most schools are having to hold secret ballots.

In Leeds, West Yorkshire, for example, 143 parents stood for 43 places. At Allerton High School, a secondary school with more than 1,000 pupils, 32 parents fought for five places.

Many critics of the changes said that the reforms would benefit only the middle classes, a claim seemingly denied

by Dearnside Comprehensive School in Barnsley, South Yorkshire, serving a deprived area of the city. There, nine parents were nominated for five places.

In a school in Waltham Forest, east London, there were 19 nominations for three places; at Soedy comprehensive in Walsall, Staffordshire, 23 for four; at schools in Hertfordshire, 14 or 15 parents fighting for every four places; at Rosebery School for Girls, Epsom, Surrey, 18 candidates for five places.

The pattern appears to be much the same across the country with the Department of Education and Science saying that so far it had received no reports of any schools failing to find sufficient parent governors. Only Stockport, Greater Manchester, and Rotham, South Yorkshire, report some schools where no ballot was required.

The schools' message to Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, seems to be: "We do not think there will be a problem."

Parents have more power as the number of local education authority-appointed governors has been cut almost in half. The problems are likely to arise in filling the places reserved for co-opted governors who have to represent industry and the community, in rural and residential areas as well as the deprived inner cities.

The Confederation of British Industry, which supports the Government's requirement for 30,000 "industrial governors", concedes there is a problem. A spokesman said last night: "The problem seems to be in linking up businessmen who want to be governors with schools who need them."

Ivory carving may show face of Ice Age man

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent, Boston

What may be the earliest known realistic depiction of Ice Age man has been published in the United States, three-quarters of a century after it was reportedly found in Czechoslovakia. The small carving in mammoth ivory of a bearded man has been dated provisionally to at least 26,000 years ago, placing it close to the beginning of the history of art.

The object shows a strongly-featured face with the mouth, nose and cheeks carved with a wholly modern realism. The eyes are shown with their pupils and upper lids fully delineated. Only the beiging brow-ridge above the eyes suggests a degree of primitivism in the subject. The hair is long, but an incised beard shows the subject to be male.

The carving, which is only 3in high and ends at neck level, was brought to Mr Alexander Marshack, a research fellow at Harvard University's Peabody Museum and a leading specialist in Ice Age art, by the Czech family which owned it.

The family, now living in Australia, claimed that the piece had been found at the end of the last century near Dobru Vestonice, a site on the Danube east of Vienna which has been famous since the 1920s for its art from the Palaeolithic period, including a lifelike ivory head of woman and a stylized "Venus" figurine of baked clay with exaggerated breasts, hips and stomach.

Those carvings have been dated to about 25,000 years



The carving which might be 26,000 years old.

ago, some five thousand years after the first Ice Age cave art appeared in Western Europe. Mr Marshack regarded the present find as a probable fake until he looked at it in profile.

"I saw that it bore a close resemblance to two Ice Age skulls of early *Homo sapiens* sapiens from other Czech sites, at Predmosti and Brno II", he said, "and then began to feel that it might possibly be genuine."

Staining by iron oxides, and the presence of fluorapatite, established by X-ray diffraction at the Peabody Museum, suggest a long period of burial, as do mineral accumulations in the carved lines and in cracks that postdate the carving.

The carving presents "an intriguing series of puzzles", Mr Marshack said in the October issue of *National Geographic*, which gave the head pride of place on its cover; he now defines that more precisely as "an analytical problem". Grey clay in cracks in the ivory and other

minerals suggested changing conditions of burial, while a lack of uranium in the soils of the Dobru Vestonice site suggests the carving did not come from the known ancient settlement itself, although it might have come from the valley below.

The only dating method applied so far, alpha-particle spectrometry, found a fairly high level of uranium, the decay rate of which has suggested a minimum age of 26,000 years, but the test was run for only 72 hours, and did not take place in a vacuum because of possible damage to the ivory. Although the two runs yielded similar dates, the test needs to be re-run for a longer counting period, and gamma-ray examination should also be carried out, Mr Marshack said.

Students must review wider issues than jobs

University students devote too much time to looking for a job and not enough thinking about the wider issues of life, the President of Trinity College, Oxford, said yesterday.

Sir John Burgh said he felt very strongly that undergraduates should be reading a quality newspaper everyday to broaden their horizons and he commended the introduction of Presspass, *The Times*' new student discount scheme.

Sir John, who read *The Times* as an undergraduate at the London School of Economics, said: "I think the idea of a discount scheme is very good".

He said he was pleased that Presspass was also available

to sixth formers. "I believe that young people should be encouraged to read a good newspaper at sixth form level."

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CONSERVATIVE PARTY CONFERENCE

'Ten more years' chant greets Thatcher

Mrs Thatcher's support for the security forces "operating within the rule of law" against the IRA drew from enthusiastic Conservatives their warmest applause during her address ending the party conference at Brighton yesterday.

She was given a standing ovation of nearly ten minutes punctuated by chants of "Ten more years" after she had spoken of leading them into the 1990s and beyond.

Mrs Thatcher said that four years had passed since they had last come to Brighton for their conference. They all had memories of that week: memories sad and memories brave.

"But the human spirit is indomitable. And today we take inspiration from our friends, many of them here in this hall, friends who survived to re-dedicate themselves to the cause of freedom."

All elections mattered, but some made history. Such was the Conservative victory in 1979. After a series of socialist governments that said "We can", Britain had wanted one that said "We can". It had got one (applause).

After nearly 10 years of Conservative government there had been a resurgence of freedom and prosperity without parallel.

"But next year's tenth anniversary is no time to rest on our laurels. It marks the start of the next ten (applause). We are all too young to put our feet up" (applause).

Their political opponents did not seem to have had a good summer. The two plottings of the old Alliance had popped up again last month. The second called the first one names but seemed to have some difficulty knowing what to call themselves (laughter).

"All those initials are so confusing, aren't they? I suggested SOS - but clearly things have gone too far for that" (laughter).

As for Labour's goings-on at Blackpool, for half an hour or so

it had seemed that their leader had seen the light and would shortly be calling his memoirs "I did it her way" (laughter and applause).

"I am proud that with a Conservative Government people are better off than they have ever been before. But an odd thing has happened recently. Because we strive to increase the prosperity of the nation and its citizens, we are accused of materialism. It is a curious charge."

"For years, one of the main arguments in British politics was how to secure economic growth. Now we have done that, now we have halted and reversed the years of decline over which Labour presided, we are told that all we care about is 'Loadsamoney'. What nonsense."

"Does someone's natural desire to do well for himself, to build a better life for his family and provide opportunities for his children, does all this make him a materialist? Of course it does not."

"It makes him a decent human being, committed to his family and his community (applause) and prepared to take responsibility on his own shoulders. The truth is that what we are actually encouraging is the best in human nature."

"Yes, our children can travel to see the treasures and wonders of the world. Yes, older people can enjoy greater comfort and pursue their own interests. Yes, culture and the arts are thriving. Yes, people can expect to enjoy these things. And if that is the charge, I plead guilty."

It was time to take credit for some of the Government's achievements.

There had been enormous increases in the amount spent on social welfare to help the less fortunate.

As prosperity had increased, so the fundamental generosity of the people had prompted more personal giving. Many businesses too were giving a percentage of their profits to help the community in which they were situated.

Personal effort did not undermine the community, it en-



Mr Cecil Parkinson buying a Union Jack for his wife, Ann (right), at the conference yesterday (Photograph: Tim Bishop)

hanced it. Encourage the individual and the community benefited.

"A man may climb Everest for himself, but at the summit he plants his country's flag" (applause).

A responsible, independent community could be built only with responsible, independent people.

"Greater responsibility gives more dignity to the individual and more strength to the community. That belief is at the heart of Conservatism and we must make it live" (applause).

In 1979 there had been the overriding threat of inflation that had redistributed wealth from the thrifty to the fly-by-night and which had under-

mined confidence in the currency, in savings, in investment and, finally, in our country's future.

To salvage the economy inflation had first to be defeated and only then could the great revival of the economy begin.

"Today, we are in our eighth year of growth. Our unemployment figures are below the Community average. We have created more jobs than they have. Other countries come to our shores to see what we do and go home to copy."

Since taking office, 18 state enterprises had been handed back to the people - so far, with more to come.

But success had to be worked

at. In economics there were no final victories.

But with rapid growth in consumption, imports had grown more quickly than exports, leaving a big trade deficit. And too much buying had been paid for by too much borrowing (applause).

To encourage people to spend less and save more, the Chancellor had had to raise interest rates.

It was never popular to push up interest rates. "But popular or not, the Chancellor has done the right thing, as you would expect him to (applause). And the right thing is to make sure that we continue to grow steadily, if less fast than in recent months."

Too much borrowing meant that inflation was too high. The Government intended to bring it down. That was not an expression of hope but a statement of intent (applause).

The Tory commitment to protect the environment was not new.

"The choice facing us is not industrial development or a clean environment. To survive we need both."

The Thames was now the cleanest metropolitan estuary in the world (applause). "I want to see the industrial rivers of the North and the Midlands - and of Europe - as clean as the Thames" (applause).

Britain had led Europe in banning the dumping of harm-

ful industrial waste in the North Sea. The Government would work with others to end the destruction of the world's forests. More of Britain's overseas aid would be directed to help poor countries to protect their trees and plant new ones.

"It is we Conservatives who are not merely friends of the Earth - we are its guardians and trustees for generations to come."

"No generation has a freehold on this Earth. All we have is a life tenancy - with a full repairing lease (laughter and applause). This Government intends to meet the terms of that lease in full" (applause).

The Government had taken action against crime. Anyone who mugged an old lady, raped a teenager, or committed violence against a child should not doubt the severity of the sentence for that sort of brutality. Violent crime had killed too many lives.

Terrorism could never be met by appeasement. "Give in to the terrorist and you breed more terrorism."

"We will not bargain, nor compromise, nor bend the knee to terrorists" (applause).

She thanked those defending democracy against the IRA "and for facing danger while keeping within the rule of law, unlike the terrorists who skulk in the shadows and shoot to kill" (applause).

"We thank, too, the security forces who had the guts to go to Gibraltar to give evidence to the inquest - (cheers and applause) - demonstrating conclusively that they acted at all times within the law and to save lives" (applause).

It was a pity that some in this country were still not prepared to accept the verdict of the jury, so great was their prejudice against the security services.

What comfort that must be to the terrorists.

"People say it is wrong to use the word 'never' in politics. I disagree. Some things are of such fundamental importance that no other word is appropriate. So I say once again today that this Government will never surrender to the IRA. Never" (long applause).

President Reagan had rebuilt the strength and confidence of the West - not without a little help (laughter).

It was vital that Britain and America should always stand together. So the next president of the United States too would have the United Kingdom as a staunch ally (applause).

Last week in Blackpool, Labour had reduced the defence of the realm to a farce. Their new secret weapon for Britain's defence was revealed: a form of wokeness (applause).

"Labour's leadership proposed a composite resolution embracing unilateral disarmament, bilateral disarmament, and all at the same time (laughter)."

"Not to defend Britain against her enemies but to defend the Labour leader against his."

Like all forms of appeasement, it had failed.

The choice in Europe was between one based on the widest possible freedom for enterprise or a Europe governed by socialist methods of centralized control and regulation.

"We haven't worked all these years to free Britain from the paralysis of socialism only to see it creep through the back door of central control and bureaucracy from Brussels (applause)."

"That wasn't what we joined the European Community for. Ours is the true European ideal, and it is that ideal which will fire our campaign in the European elections."

On the great fundamentals of politics, the party was united.

"The Conservative Party occupies the common ground of British politics (applause). And it is where the great mass of the British people have pitched their tents."

"So it has fallen to us to lead Britain into the 1990s, and we know the way. There will be new challenges, new problems, new tests. For there are no final victories in politics, either."

"But we will meet them, strengthened by our belief in this country; in the talents and wisdom of its people; in their tolerance and understanding; in their decency and kindness."

Candidates wanted for Ulster

By Richard Ford
Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister is facing growing pressure from the Conservative grassroots to allow the party to organize and put forward candidates in Northern Ireland.

Mr Peter Brooke, the Conservative party chairman, promised the party conference yesterday to treat "seriously" an application for affiliation from an unofficial constituency party in the province.

Officials of the North Down Conservative Association have been lobbying the conference with growing support during the past four days.

A further five embryo Conservative associations are planned for East Londonderry, Lagan Valley, East Belfast, South Belfast and Strangford constituencies.

A party convinced the 1990s will be Tories' decade

By Robin Oakley
Political Editor

The 1988 Conservative conference spent the week veering either side of the line between self-confidence and complacency. And little wonder.

Sixteen months into the 1979 Parliament the Thatcher Government was well behind the Labour Opposition in the polls. Sixteen months into the 1983 Parliament the two main parties were virtually at level pegging.

Sixteen months after the 1987 election the Tories have a comfortable lead at what should be the low point of the Parliament, and remain convinced that they will win at least the next election if not the one after that.

Like the party chairman, Mr Peter Brooke, they believe that they can make the 1990s a Tory decade.

A typically ebullient performance by Mr Nigel "It's just a little bit too much of a good thing" Lawson seemed to calm their worries about rising inflation and higher mortgage rates.

Mr Kenneth Clarke's extra £140 million for the nurses was enough to

convince them that the NHS will be seen to remain safe in Mrs Thatcher's hands.

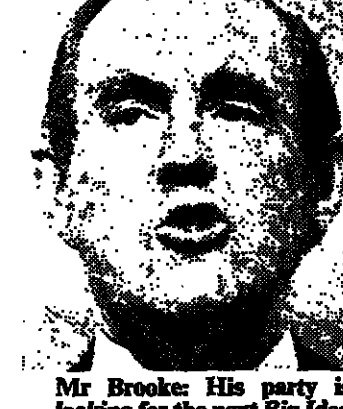
The party has begun to listen a little more thoughtfully to calls on the conference fringe from Mr Michael Heseltine, Mr Peter Walker and Mr Malcolm Rifkind to remember the party of Britain not yet reached by Thatcherite prosperity.

And Mrs Thatcher's speech was designed to satisfy them that there is an answer to Mr Kinnock's claims that they stand for a "me, now" philosophy.

But if they are happy about now there is just a frisson of concern about what comes next. This is a party looking, though not very hard as yet, for the next Big Idea after union reform and privatization.

The concepts of the active, responsible citizen (which most of them believe they are already) does not have the precision of earlier Thatcherite rallying calls.

The Tories rally rather than confer, and a gathering of the faithful held in the shadow of the 1984 IRA bombing outrage was muffled by the inevitable security blanket, with half-a-dozen badge checks, an explosives sniffer, a



Mr Brooke: His party is looking for the next Big Idea

body search and a baggage scan between representatives and many of the activities they might have contemplated.

As a conference it never quite developed a character of its own and ministerial pronouncements were mostly confirmation of initiatives already foreshadowed.

The social services secretary, Mr

John Moore, however, did signal new intent when he queried the payment of benefits that encourage men to desert their families and unmarried teenagers to become pregnant.

The education secretary, Mr Kenneth Baker, is edging towards legislation to end the so-called closed shop operated by the National Union of Students and Mr Paul Channon, a politician reborn as transport secretary, is putting real steam behind the idea of attracting private investment into building roads. The toll motorway stretches ahead.

The Sunday-trading issue has taken off once more, with the Keep Sunday Special Campaign and the Shopping Hours Reform Council among the most prominent of the lobbyists in Brighton. Young Conservative efforts got the conference to back a balloted motion calling for rationalization. But a Government shaken by losing its Shops Bill on second reading in 1986 is playing it carefully this time.

The Home Office minister, Mr Timothy Renton, said "Do not think we are going to lead the equivalent of a charge of the Light Brigade into a valley of parliamentary death". They would go to Parliament only with an

agreed majority for reform.

But what happened on the conference floor generally mattered less than the private arguments in the Grand Hotel room of Mr John Major, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, as he wrangled with his spending minister colleagues about how many of their cherished plans the Chancellor was prepared to fund.

That put the focus more on individual performance and who seized their opportunities in Brighton.

Chancellor Lawson certainly did so, making a speech which in passages was more that of Prime Minister than Chancellor, and which clearly signalled his interest in filling any vacancy that might occur in the Foreign Office. We may have him around a Tory Cabinet longer than the past six months of stories has suggested.

Mr Cecil Parkinson, the energy secretary, had the wit to grab the headlines by pronouncing the Government's already known intention of privatizing the mines a "historic pledge" for the next Parliament.

Mr Clarke, the health secretary, made plain that it will be evolution

not revolution in tackling the NHS, which will certainly not be dismantled while he is in charge.

Two undervalued conference troupers, Mr Norman Fowler and Mr John Gummer, showed that they can still hit a Tory audience. But Mr Nicholas Ridley began to look a little uncomfortable as environment secretary in these greener days.

He may be right to insist that the Government will not be panicked into precipitate action by what he calls "alarmist myths" and he is wise to warn that consumers will have to pay a price for a cleaner Britain. But colleagues are questioning if he has got the point of the issue quite right in the present mood.

Perhaps the most significant success of the conference, though, was that of Mr Douglas Hurd in the traditional "Laura Norder" debate.

There are real tensions between the conference floor and the MPs who deny them the capital (and corporal) punishment they crave. Mr Hurd has to tear the stripes of the Tory parliamentary conscience. But he did so coolly, rationally and without flannel in a way which won him the respect of those who oppose him.

Heysel trial Lawyer fears for supporters

By Paul Vallyley

No facilities for simultaneous translation will be available in Brussels on Monday for the trial of the 26 British football supporters accused of manslaughter after the riot at Heysel stadium, according to a lawyer.

Sir Harry Livermore, a Liverpool solicitor who represents 14 of the fans, yesterday criticized the arrangements for the trial which he predicted would be "a shambles".

The case, which is being heard on a part-time basis, is expected to last for up to five months.

The Liverpool fans are thought to face jail sentences of up to 10 years.

They are charged with "involuntary manslaughter" arising out of the riot at the

1985 European Cup Final between Liverpool and the Italian team, Juventus.

Thirty-nine people, most of them Italians, were killed and more than 400 were injured in the fray which caused several walls to collapse.

Sir Harry said of the trial, which opens at the Palais de Justice in Brussels: "It will be a shambles. There will be no simultaneous translation."

"The Belgians say they cannot afford it. For every four Britons there will just be one interpreter who will whisper in their ears throughout the case."

The case would be further complicated, he said, because the court had a duty to settle more than 1,300 civil claims.

M Leo Willems, Minister

Counsellor at the Belgian Embassy in London, last night denied there was any unfairness.

"The system is different, that is all. It is based on the Code Napoleon and it is perhaps fortunate for the fans that they will not be tried by a jury, who could take a much more emotional view."

"It is not true to say it is not adversarial. Cross-examination can take place, but it must be done through the judge, just as questions are asked through the Speaker in the British Parliament."

Mr Rex Makin, another British lawyer for the fans, does not share Sir Harry's view. He said yesterday: "The system is different but I think they will get a fair trial there as they would here."

£20m farm research plant brings 450 jobs

By Paul Vallyley

An agricultural laboratory complex that will create 450 jobs is to be built in south Warwickshire at a cost of £20 million.

The 30-acre greenfield site beside the Institute of Horticultural Research at Wellesbourne is expected to offer employment for up to 150 local people.

The bulk of the workforce will be relocated from laboratories in towns in the South-east, but the move is being heralded as a boost for the local economy.

Construction work will begin in about 12 months but it will be 1992 or 1993 before the laboratories are fully operational.

The complex will be known as the Research and Development Services Central Laboratories. The staff will be working mainly on statutory

research on pesticides and the control of rodents, pests and diseases.

That will include carrying out tests on new pesticides when manufacturers apply for registration.

Mr Alan Dalby, station administrator at Wellesbourne, said the new laboratories would not affect the work of the horticultural institute.

They will replace centres at Worplesden, Slough, Harpenden and Tolworth in the south-east of England, he said.

The idea is to centralize their work, and in any case one or two have rather dilapidated buildings.

"The development will not enhance our national capabilities in that field, but it will streamline and improve the operational efficiency."

Greens hail latest convert

By Ronald Faux

The Green Party annual conference opened yesterday in Southport with members enjoying the prospect opened by the latest convert to its cause - Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

"It has put the Green issue plainly on the political agenda", Mrs Sara Parkin, international liaison secretary for the United Kingdom Greens, said.

Fears that opposing political parties might be about to steal the Greens' clothes were rejected by Mrs Parkin. The first objective was to have the environment as a high political priority.

Helped by Chernobyl, acid rain and a variety of manifest pollutants at sea and on land, the party had succeeded.

"What is now needed is for action and that always has been the second objective. We will be watching Mrs Thatcher

carefully.

"She responded to what has happened as a chemist because she can understand that. We now want to see her response as a politician."

The Greens believe that the Prime Minister's unexpected outburst could have partly been caused by the result of the Swedish general election, where proportional representation had put 20 Green MPs into Parliament.

In Sweden, the Greens held only 5.5 per cent of the popular vote against the 1.5 per cent the party holds in Britain, where it has won 80 local council seats, 10 of them at county level.

British membership is claimed at more than 7,500 as the party campaigns hard to make its policies politically respectable. It is in that direc-

tion Mrs Thatcher has helped it, the party believes.

Miss Jill Lingren, Green MP for Stockholm, told the conference that in Sweden and in Britain the old parties had solved the old problems but the questions for the 1990s could not be solved with the old answers.

Miss Jean Lambert, Green Party council speaker, said there was a feeling of certain satisfaction that Mrs Thatcher had "gone Green" but for 15 years the party had been arguing that the health of the planet was central to the well being of its people.

The conference passed a resolution calling on the Government to introduce catalytic converters on new cars after 1990. It demanded an immediate ban on the transport of "intricately toxic substances" by air.

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Irish Labour Party split over the effect of Militant

By Jamie Detmer
Irish Affairs Correspondent

Militant Tendency, the Liverpool-based hardline Trotskyite group, may no longer hold the sway it did in the British Labour Party but its red flag is still flying high in the Irish Republic.

Mr Dick Spring, leader of the Irish Labour Party, is now facing a concerted challenge from Militant supporters who are building up their strength in the key Dublin constituencies.

All the old Militant wrecking methods employed in Liverpool are being repeated within the republic's Labour Party, which is being split by the leadership's attempts to expel Militant Tendency members.

Earlier this week, a meeting of the administrative council, the party's ruling body, ended in chaos after several hours of bitter debate about a leadership motion to expel three branches of the Dublin West constituency.

The motion was passed after several members of the administrative council walked out, including Mr Emmet Stagg, the

Unionist parties yesterday rejected the invitation by Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, to take part next month in the review of the Anglo-Irish agreement.

The announcement came after a two-and-a-half-hour meeting on Thursday night of the joint Official Unionist-Democratic Unionist parties' policy "think tank".

The group said in a statement: "Northern Ireland Office insistence on a purely superficial review of the agreement, with at most only cosmetic changes, makes it pointless for our two parties to participate in mere tinkering with an agreement so flawed it is recognized by both sides of the community as having failed."

They said they had already put "fair and

party's vice-chairman, Mr Stagg, who is not a Militant member, is very much the Eric Heffer of Irish Labour politics, a traditional left-winger.

One Irish Labour MP said after the meeting he had "never seen such scenes of disorder in the party before".

As in Britain the debate rages over whether

reasonable" proposals to Mr King for political advance and were still waiting for him to respond. They criticized him for a long delay in replying. The parties agreed to keep secret their proposals, which have been framed as an alternative to the London-Dublin pact.

When Mr King issued invitations to take part in the review earlier this week, he said it would be an opportunity for those who said they had not been consulted before the agreement was signed to have their say.

"I would be very concerned indeed if there was any lack of consultation at this review time", he said.

Militant is a "party within a party".

"Militant members' first allegiance is not to the Labour Party, and what Militant Tendency has done to the British Labour Party has been well documented", Mr Toddy O'Sullivan, Labour MP for Cork South Central, said.

"Our party is not strong enough numeri-

cally or financially to withstand these kinds of attacks from within."

The relations between the Irish version of Militant with the British organization have never been clear. *Militant Irish Monthly* is believed to be printed in England with financial help from Militant in Liverpool.

The policy followed by the Irish group is exactly the same as that advocated by the tendency in Britain. Leaders in Liverpool and Coventry regularly speak at meetings in the republic.

Three members

Inter-union battle in prospect as TGWU uses poaching tactics

By Roland Radu, Employment Affairs Reporter

An inter-union membership war is threatening to break out in the construction industry after Britain's biggest trade union yesterday established a special branch to poach members of the electricians' union.

Dissatisfied members of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union in the construction industry who want to remain loyal to the TUC are being urged to join a "holding branch" of the Transport and General Workers Union.

They will then be transferred to the breakaway Electrical and Plumbing Industries Union once it gains affiliation status from the TUC.

The move is being led by Mr George Foulkes, an EPTU executive member and deputy convenor at Ford's Dagenham Plant, who last week helped set up a holding branch for electricians in the left-led Manufacturing, Science and Finance Union.

However, the EPTU's plan to recruit electricians is being resisted by the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians, which has just under 250,000 members in the industry. Mr Alan

Williams, UCATT general secretary, has written to all his officials and shop stewards instructing them not to poach EETPU members and asking them to work normally with their officials on multi-union committees.

Mr Williams, who is on the right of the movement, says: "UCATT should not be interested in recruiting electricians. I take the view that in or out of the TUC, the electricians are a bona fide trade union."

Electricians will be able to join the new construction union only if they have made it clear that they are not prepared to remain members of a non-TUC affiliated union.

However, Mr Williams has laid down strict guidelines for joining his union. UCATT shop stewards have been told to notify regional organizers before membership forms are sent on the union's general office. Mr Williams makes it plain that he does not support a campaign to poach EETPU members and will not support the new EPTU.

Mr John Grant, EETPU communications officer, yesterday said: "We are pleased

that a major union has made it plain that it is anxious to avoid needless difficulties. It only serves to underline the mischievous attitude of other unions trying to stimulate an inter-union membership war."

Union officials fear that the latest outbreak in the bitter inter-union war could sour joint negotiating committees.

The TUC has sent a circular to all general secretaries asking them to avoid disrupting the joint negotiating committees, which talk to employers about the workers' terms and conditions.

Mr Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, is keeping a close watch on all joint union committees and on the activities of the EETPU.

Although he has said that the TUC will vigorously defend its members if they come under attack from the EETPU, his over-riding concern is to maintain orderly inter-union relations.

Mr Williams has told his officials to work with EETPU representatives and not to join any moves to unseat EETPU chairman or secretaries of multi-union committees.

When talk turns to Tornados



Hauptman Hans Marshall, Luftwaffe, Squadron Leader Forbes Smith, RAF, and Colonel Aldo Giannelli, Italian Air Force, among the Tornados of the Nato forces gathered at RAF Cottesmore yesterday (Photograph: Denzil McNeelance).

By David Sapsted

A year ago, it was the hurricane that preoccupied much of southern Britain. At RAF Cottesmore yesterday the over-riding concern was the Tornado.

Fifty of the aircraft, along with 200 aircrew and staff officers from the three European nations that build and operate the jet fighter-attack aircraft, gathered at

the Leicestershire base for the annual Tornado symposium. Under discussion was the F3 version's air defence capability and of the Tornado at sea.

All 32 RAF, Luftwaffe, German Navy and Italian Air Force units operating the Tornado were represented at Cottesmore, home of the Tri-National Tornado Training Establishment (TTTE).

The Tornado, which will be the backbone of Nato air power into the twenty-first century, has proved a success not only as an example of plane-making collaboration, but also on the sales front: 124 have been sold to the Royal Saudi and Jordanian Air Forces. A total of 385 will eventually go to the RAF, 324 to the Germans and 100 to the Italians.

Reliability clause for defence contracts

By Philip Webster
Chief Political Correspondent

The Government is planning to include penalties for unreliability in its contracts with companies supplying the armed forces with equipment. After a highly critical report from MPs complaining about the huge cost of maintaining unreliable equipment, future contracts will compel suppliers to maintain high standards.

The Commons defence committee said in a scathing report in June that unreliable equipment cost the RAF £500 million a year, impairing one in 10 peacetime missions and grounding up to half its frontline jets at any one time. Twice as much was spent on the upkeep of equipment as its purchase.

The committee said that contracting for reliability could do much to ensure the delivery of better equipment.

In reply, the Government said its figures on aircraft availability reflected peace-time circumstances only. In an emergency, it was confident that sufficient aircraft would be available to meet national and Nato commitments.

But it agreed with the committee on the value of improving reliability.

NEWS ROUNDUP

£65m glass plant set for St Helens

The new Pilkington glass plant is to be built in St Helens, Merseyside, and not in the South-east of England, the board decided yesterday. The £65 million float glass factory, which will be the most modern in Europe, should be opened on the Pilkington site at Greengate, St Helens, in two years.

The decision ended speculation that the company might move to the South-east to serve the buoyant market for glass from London development sites and to check European competition taking advantage of the Channel Tunnel and the free European market.

It was greeted with relief by St Helens Metropolitan Borough Council which has been campaigning to persuade Pilkington management not to move such an important investment South because of the bad impression this would give to other companies considering a move to St Helens. Pilkington's employ 6,000 in the town and the new plant will increase production of float glass to more than 12,000 tonnes a week.

Maxwell's libel win

Mr Robert Maxwell, the publisher, won substantial undisclosed libel damages from the satirical magazine *Private Eye* in the High Court yesterday over allegations of fraud. The damages are to be donated at his request to the National Aids Trust. The magazine's publishers, Pressdram, acknowledged the falsity of allegations concerning a car-dealing business in an article titled "Wheeler Dealer" in June last year, apologized and agreed to pay the damages and all legal costs.

Rebuttal over trees

The Forestry Commission said yesterday it was baffled by a claim by the Council for the Protection of Rural England that it was to blame for the damage done by last year's hurricane. Mr David Astor, the council's chairman, said the hurricane itself was unavoidable, but for 70 years the Forestry Commission had failed to renew native trees. The commission said yesterday that most of the trees destroyed were privately owned and not its responsibility. "Our role is to provide advice and incentives, not to dictate to people."

'Churchill Tunnel'

The European Parliament suggested in Strasbourg yesterday that the Channel Tunnel be named after Sir Winston Churchill and M Jean Monnet. M Pierre Pflimlin, a French deputy who submitted the proposal to the parliament of the EEC, said Churchill was the first to call for a united states of Europe in 1946 while Monnet, the founding father of the Community, had contributed to Britain's accession to the EEC in 1973.

Rail bridge replaced

A new bridge will be lifted into place today over the river where one collapsed last October into floodwater under the weight of a train, killing four people, including the train driver and a boy aged 14. The replacement bridge, over the river Towy near Llandeilo in Dyfed, will incorporate two floodgates, which the original bridge did not have, to reduce pressure caused by high water. British Rail said yesterday that trains are expected to be crossing the new bridge by the end of the month.

Warship ceremony

The new HMS Coventry was commissioned at a ceremony in Portsmouth yesterday watched by relatives of sailors who died when her predecessor was sunk in the Falklands conflict. A cross of nails from the old roof of Coventry Cathedral, retrieved from the wreck by divers, was handed to Captain Ted Hackett, the new frigate's commander.

Takeover threat to 'royal' sell-off

By Robin Young

The share issue in British Monarchy plc, the privatization of the Royal Family and all Crown property, is in danger after a publishing takeover in the United States.

British Monarchy plc, a spoof prospectus for the sell-off of the Crown jewels and the people who wear them, was published last Thursday by Bath Street Press, a new imprint started by Marshall Pickering.

In the US, Zondervan Corporation, which owns Marshall Pickering, has been taken over by Harper & Row,

Mr Rupert Murdoch's publishing house. Zondervan publishes religious fundamentalists while Marshall Pickering, based in Basingstoke, has a backlist of religious best-sellers.

The new proprietors doubt there is room for Peter Chippindale and Chris Horrie, the authors of *British Monarchy plc*.

Mr Chippindale said yesterday: "It is a disaster for us but one can quite understand if they want to concentrate on specialist religious books again."

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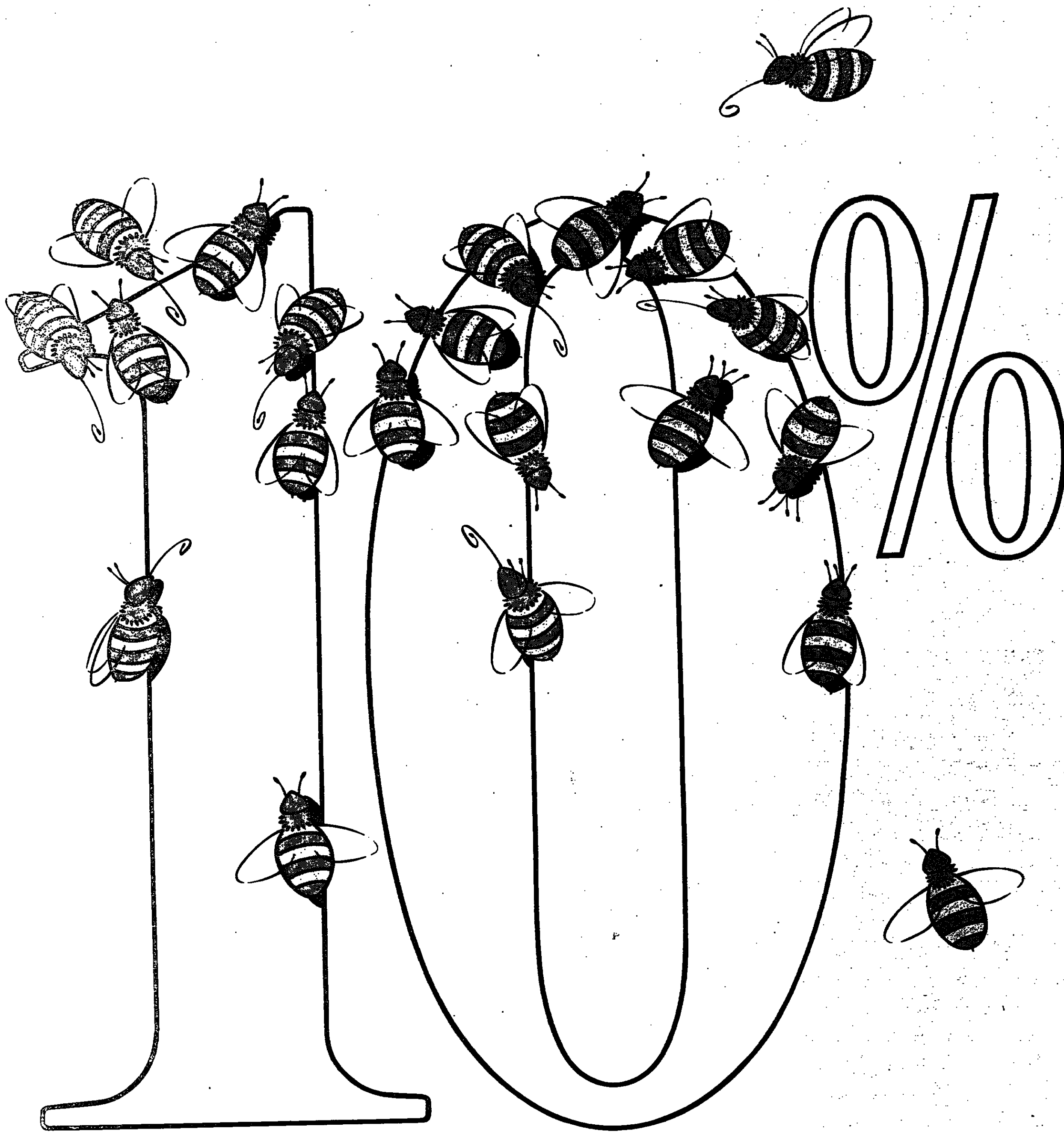
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£600m to counter air chaos as passengers set to double

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

The Civil Aviation Authority will next week unveil details of a £600 million investment programme designed to enable Britain's air traffic control system to cope with an expected doubling in the number of air travellers by the end of the century.

Although the number of passengers is expected to continue to rise by about 6 per cent a year, the authority predicts that the number of aircraft able to take off and land will rise by only 68 per cent in that time.

If the gap is to be bridged, airlines will have to use far bigger aircraft than today and divert more operations to regional airports, the authority says.

The figures will be disclosed in the National Air Traffic Services Operational Strategy Plan, which spells out how the authority will spend more than £600 million on new radars, a complete reorganisation of the air traffic control system around London and the building of a new London Air Traffic Control Centre.

The report will show for the first time what analysts believe should be the capacity of the system to cope with the

Boeing, the American plane makers, has been forced to delay planned deliveries of its long-range 747-400 jet because the huge demand has swamped the plant.

One hundred and sixty-one of the four-engine jets — each costing about \$125 million — have been ordered by 21 airlines.

British Airways is among those which will have to wait another month for deliveries to begin as the company rapidly steps up its work force to cope with the demand, and in-

expected doubling in the number of people wanting to fly, and will be used as a basis for development plans for airports, terminals, air traffic control and airlines themselves.

The predicted 68 per cent increase in aircraft movements by the year 2000 compared with 1985 will be met with dismay by many airlines and aviation bodies.

Figures to be published by the Association of European Airlines next month are likely to predict that the number of aircraft taking off and landing in Europe will have to double over the next 12 years.

The authority, however, believes that such an increase is likely only at Manchester and on

trans-Atlantic routes. A shortage of "slots" will automatically prevent any such increases at Heathrow and Gatwick, and even though Stansted will expand rapidly it will still not be able to cope with the surge now forecast by virtually every aviation organization.

One answer, according to the authority, is for airlines to operate much bigger aircraft, so limiting the number of take-offs yet increasing the number of people being carried.

Already there is some sign that this is happening, and the average number of passengers per aircraft arriving at Heathrow has gone up from 106 in 1978 to 117.5 last year.

But if European air travel liberalization becomes a reality in 1992 there could be a further large increase in services to smaller regional airports, leading to a reduction in the average number of passengers per aircraft rather than an increase.

The strategy plan is 50 pages of detailed projects now being perused by the CAA. It will reveal that it still has not found a suitable site for the new London Air Traffic Control Centre to replace West Drayton and that a short list of green-field sites is still being studied.

If the new centre is to be operational by 1996 as envisaged, however, it is essential that planning applications are lodged soon.

Already Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the CAA chairman, has told Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, that the £600 million plan must be speeded up and that more money will have to be spent over the next five years.

He is now waiting to hear whether Mr Channon has been able to persuade the Chancellor of the Exchequer to bring forward the expenditure and boost the CAA's original cash spending by about £100 million over the next five years.

A million-dollar game



Mr Mike Grabsky, left, the United Kingdom Monopoly champion, and Mr Jason Bunn, the world champion, try out a million-dollar gold board, set with 165 gem stones and created by Mr Sidney Mobell, the American jewellery designer. They will both play in the world Monopoly championships in London tomorrow and Monday (Photograph: Marc Aspland).

Raising of key oil rig module under way

By Kerry Gill

Work on raising the main accommodation module of the Piper Alpha oil platform has now started. Occidental Oil said last night.

The main module, weighing more than 1,000 tons, is lying on the sea-bed in the North Sea in nearly 500ft of water. It is thought to contain the bodies of up to 112 victims of last July's disaster.

A spokesman for Occidental said final preparations were being made for the lifting of the four-storey structure. The module is expected to break the surface over the weekend.

A smaller module from the platform was brought ashore on Tuesday, although no bodies from the disaster, in which 167 men died, were discovered inside.

The larger structure has already been placed on a lifting frame.

A Japanese heavy lift vessel, the DB102, will hook up to the cradle and gently raise the seabed tomb to the top.

The module will then be loaded on to a transport barge and taken 130 miles to the sheltered waters of Flotta in Orkney, where it will be searched for bodies under the direction of Grampian Police.

Lawyers representing Occidental survivors and the dependants of victims in the oil rig fire disaster, met in London yesterday to hold discussions over detailed plans for resolving compensation claims.

Legion disease

Three more workers at the British Aerospace plant in Bolton, Greater Manchester, were confirmed yesterday as having legionnaires' disease, bringing the total to eight with 20 more being checked.

Police press for training university

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

A "police university" aimed at training policemen from the rawest recruits to senior commanders is being proposed by the Police Federation.

A discussion paper circulating to local police authorities and police argues that a central training centre would cut costs while improving and standardizing the training of officers for the 42 forces in England and Wales. Recruits are now

trained at seven regional centres.

Scottish police already have a single training centre at Tullaghan Castle in Clackmannanshire. The Metropolitan Police has a training centre at Hendon, north London.

The paper notes "some dissenters will look upon this suggestion as a move towards becoming a national police force but in essence all we are suggesting is a unified and professional outlook".

The paper recognizes that there might

be questions about maintaining the individual character of forces. It suggests that this problem might be met by forming colleges within the university representing the regions from which officers were drawn.

Chief Superintendent Kent Smith, secretary of the Superintendents' Association, said yesterday that his association did not think the idea would get off the ground because there were insufficient resources.

Road accident victims

Crash cost to be reassessed

By Ian Smith

A hospital survey shows that road accidents are far more expensive than was thought.

As a result of the survey, at Salford, Greater Manchester, the Department of Transport's Road Research Laboratory has commissioned a two-year study in three Manchester hospitals to obtain a national oversight into the real costs.

Department figures show that last year the total bill for road accidents was £3.8 billion, made up of £1.17 billion damage to vehicles and property, £1.47 billion pain and suffering to casualties, £860 million road repairs and £150 million ambulances and hospital treatment.

Preliminary work led by Professor Charles Galasko at the department of orthopaedic surgery in Hope Hospital,

Salford, has shown that crash victims cost the NHS two to three times more than the previously acknowledged expenditure for initial casualty treatment.

Studies have shown that crash victims often need sustained hospital treatment, lasting two or three years, cannot work because of injuries, draw social security benefits and rely on community health and welfare services.

Professor Galasko's team found long-term disability was far more widespread than earlier acknowledged. The team recorded the injuries of all road victims treated at Hope Hospital for 12 months after initial casualty treatment, and found many patients suffering whiplash injuries to the spine and closed fractures to their lower

limbs which later developed into serious disabilities.

The recovery rate of all patients at North Manchester General Hospital, Stockport Infirmary and Hope Hospital treated for such injuries will be charted for three years.

"What we are discovering is that the long-term cost far exceeds that previously taken into account, twice or even three times higher. It may well be that our results will persuade the Government to spend enormous sums of money in the short term on road improvements to bring about long-term savings", Professor Galasko said.

1,174 people died on the roads of Britain in April-June this year, nearly 6 per cent fewer than in the same period of 1987, even though road traffic increased by 2 per cent.

Inner City Aid alters its course

By David Cross

Inner City Aid, the Prince of Wales's troubled charity, is to abandon its original goal of fund-raising and concentrate instead on providing advice for housing projects.

The charity, set up two years ago to halt urban decay by encouraging reinvestment, has been in suspended animation for several months after agreeing not to compete for funds with the Prince's Youth Business Trust, set up at the same time with a similar fund-raising goal.

Mr Tom Shebbeare, director of the Prince's Trust, the Prince's main charity for helping young people, said yesterday that Inner City Aid, as a fund-raising spectacular, was "likely to be phased out and replaced by other initiatives".

In an interview with *Building Design*, he said the Prince would not be involved in any more fund-raising for Inner City Aid but would concentrate on the relaunch of the Youth Business Trust.

Computer fraud losses up 12-fold in five years

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

The average computer fraud nets the thief £390,000, and the chances of being prosecuted are small, a national survey of computer crime shows.

The average loss suffered by companies has risen 12-fold in five years, with one attempted fraud this summer almost succeeding in netting £27 million, according to the survey, compiled by BIS Applied Systems, computer consultants.

Despite the rapid growth in the crime, companies appear to be having little success in preventing it. Almost half the detected frauds came to light by accident, or some blunder by the perpetrators.

In addition, companies suffering a computer fraud are reluctant to take action against the culprits that would deter others: "Most are merely asked to resign, in some cases with glowing references or even golden handshakes", the report's authors said. Even those convicted of fraud usually receive only light sen-

tences, partly because the vast majority are first offenders.

In the majority of cases, the computer terminal is simply the starting point of a classic fraud that in the past would have been committed by paper rather than electronic means.

The typical fraudster is a junior staff member of a financial services company who has found a way of using his terminal to break into the accounts system.

But the survey showed that middle and upper management have begun to account for a growing proportion of the higher-value frauds.

The report tells of two managers in a manufacturing company who set up false companies on the computerized bought ledger system, and produced false cheques which ended up in their own accounts. They amassed more than £500,000 each before a tip-off resulted in their arrest, and a five-year prison sentence.

Homes to be sold for £3,249

By Patrick O'Hanlon

A city's entire council housing stock is to be sold to a private landlord — at a knockdown price of £3,249 a house.

In the face of opposition from many of the 8,000 tenants affected, Conservative-controlled Gloucester City Council's housing committee voted to sell 6,500 homes to the North Housing Association, based in Newcastle upon Tyne. The houses would be expected to fetch up to £50,000 each on the open market.

Tenants opposed to the sale attacked the decision as "absolute lunacy", saying that they will risk eviction and increased rents as a result. It is

believed to be the first such mass transfer of council houses.

North Housing will pay £21.5 million for the properties and has promised to spend a further £33 million, less the cost of the transfer, on modernizing 1,500 of the houses. It says it will ballot tenants before the deal.

The Gloucester Tenants' Federation, which has twice complained to the ombudsman, said that meetings on estates showed that tenants were overwhelmingly opposed to the sale.

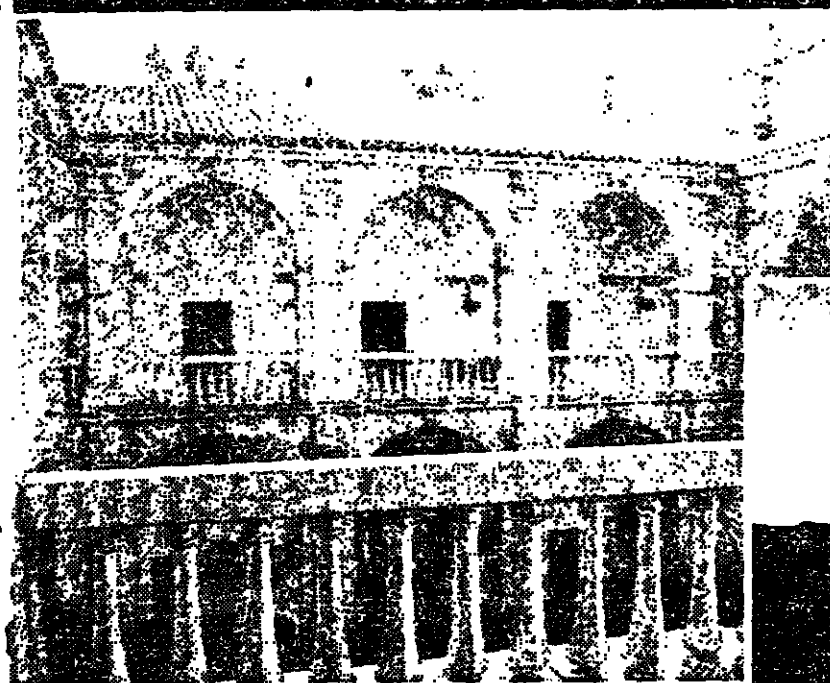
"We stand to lose all our security of tenure and risk being evicted", Mrs Anne

Williams, chairman of the federation, said. "We want to stay with the council, not to have an absentee landlord 250 miles up the motorway."

Mrs Williams also dismissed North Housing's pledge to modernize the houses. "It is crazy to expect us to sit back and believe that", she said.

However, Mr Andrew Gravells, of the council's housing committee, said that the transfer would be in the tenants' interests. "I am confident there will be a resounding 'yes' vote from them. What we are doing will protect them from the worst effects of the Government's Housing Bill".

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Campaign moves into top gear after lacklustre television duel leaves Dukakis facing an uphill fight

Bush disarms rival with faint praise and a 'liberal' tag

From Christopher Thomas, Los Angeles

Governor Michael Dukakis's presidential hopes sagged in the final television debate with Vice-President George Bush, who appeared relaxed and confident in one of his most effective performances on television.

The Democratic contender needed a decisive victory to bolster his position in the polls. But Mr Bush continually hammered him with a "liberal" label, and took the offensive on arms control, defence and ethics in government.

By most accounts, Mr Bush won.

Mr Dukakis often appeared wooden and ill at ease. He seemed disarmed when Mr Bush praised him as a family man and a man proud of his ethnic heritage.

"I hope the tone we have just heard might be the tone we will have for the rest of the campaign," Mr Dukakis responded grudgingly.

There were a few high spots in a generally uneventful debate. With 100 million Americans watching, the 90-minute encounter began with a startling question from Bernard Shaw, the Cable News Network anchor, that produced hoots and whistles from the audience. "If Kitty Dukakis were raped and murdered, would you favour an irrevocable death penalty for the killer?" he asked the Governor.

"No," Mr Dukakis replied, without hesitating. "I have opposed the death penalty all my life. I don't see any evidence that it is a deterrent. There are better and more effective ways to deal with violent crime."

Mr Shaw then brought an aghast look to the Vice-President's face when he noted that should he be elected to the White House next month, but die before inauguration day in January, Senator Dan Quayle would automatically become the 41st President. "What have you to say about that possibility?" he asked.

Mr Bush quickly dropped a smile from his face and replied

firmly: "I have confidence in him. I made a good selection. I have never seen such an unfair pounding on a young senator in my entire life. I have never seen a presidential campaign where the presidential nominee runs against my vice-presidential nominee."

Republicans in the blue-carpeted Pauley Pavilion of the University of California roared with delight. But Mr Bush was not finished with defending his controversial running mate, who had been "jumped on" by Senator Lloyd Bentsen in the vice-presidential debate. "It is turning around," he

said, of public attitudes to Mr Quayle. "The American people are fair. They don't like it when there is an unfair pounding and kind of hooting about people. I am proud that people who are 30 or 40 now have someone in their generation who is going to be Vice-President of the United States of America."

In his one-minute rebuttal, Mr Dukakis produced one of his few barbed comments of the evening. "Mr Bush picked Dan Quayle and before he did it he said, 'Watch my choice for vice-president. It will tell all.' And it sure did."

The rivals sparred over taxes. Mr Bush repeated his pledge not to raise them because he did not want to kill economic expansion. His "flexible" freeze proposals would allow growth but would not permit Congress to increase spending. "Those pessimists who say it can't be done — I am sorry, I just have a fundamental disagreement with them."

Mr Dukakis replied that the pledge was not worth the paper it was written on. "He says he wants to give the wealthiest one per cent of the

people of the country a five-year \$40 billion (£24 billion) tax break."

Mr Bush leapt on Mr Dukakis's plans for stepping up the search for tax fiddlers, raising the spectre of an army of tax agents descending into everybody's kitchen. "He's against most defence matters and now he wants to get an army of tax auditors out there."

The Vice-President then defended his "negative campaigning" style, noting that three months ago some analysts had written him off. "What I have had to do is define my position," he said, adding as he pointed at his rival, "and to define his. I am not going to let Governor Dukakis go through this election without explaining some of these very liberal positions."

Mr Dukakis noted that Republicans had long sought to attach a liberal label to opponents. "If I had a dollar, George, for every time you used that 'liberal' label, I would qualify for one of those tax breaks for the rich that you want to give away."

On defence, Mr Bush said the US was "protecting a couple of options" for modernizing strategic nuclear forces while superpower negotiations on reducing strategic arms went forward. It would be "dumb negotiating policy" to cut out one or other of the two options right now.

Mr Bush was asked if he had anything nice to say about his opponent. "Listen, you are stealing my clothes. I have something very nice to say about him," he replied.

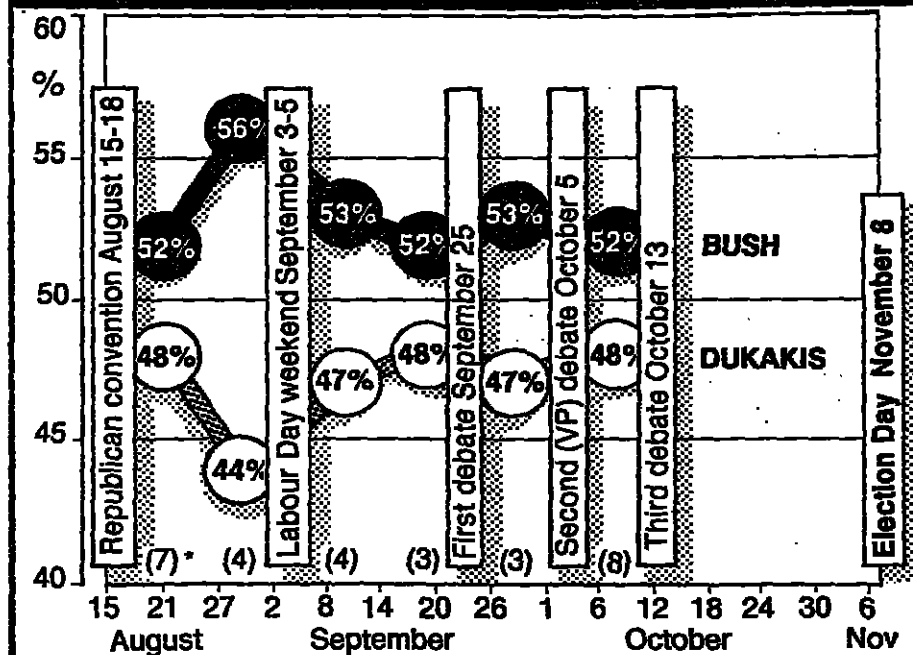
Mr Dukakis's family had his great respect. "Anybody that gets into this political arena deserves a word of praise because it has been a little ugly out there, a little nasty," Mr Bush went on.

The most poignant moment of the debate came with a question on abortion.

Mr Bush, who opposes abortion, recalled that he and his wife lost a daughter, Robin, who died at six months with leukaemia. Human life



US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION POLL OF POLLS



* Figures in parentheses give number of individual polls averaged
Compiled by MORI with the assistance of AEI's Public Opinion Magazine
Sources: Gallup, Harris, Yankelovich, Black, CBS/New York Times, ABC/Washington Post, NBC/WSJ, LA Times

was precious. Mr Dukakis recalled that he and his wife, Kitty, lost a baby that lived for 20 minutes. The real question was "Who makes this very difficult decision to have an abortion?" It had to be the woman.

NEW YORK: The Bush campaign team could barely disguise its euphoria yesterday after his untypical stylish performance in brushing aside the attempts of Mr Dukakis to

break his stride in the final stretch of the presidential race (Charles Bremner writes).

By consensus, even in the Democratic camp, Mr Dukakis, struggling clumsily to keep his "Mr Cool" image and make himself likeable, failed to score the breakthrough that he needed to turn the tide.

First opinion polls confirmed the experts' view that the Bush chemistry "took" on the stage of the University of

California, although both candidates spent most of the time going over well-trodden ideological ground.

According to ABC News, 49 per cent of viewers thought Mr Bush "won" and 33 per cent gave it to Mr Dukakis. At their other debate in North Carolina last month, the same initial polls gave the edge to the articulate Democratic candidate.

Conor Cruise O'Brien, page 10

Polls point to trouble for the Democrats

By Robert Worcester

With the gap between the two parties' candidates having remained virtually stable for some six weeks now, and with just four weeks to go until election day Vice-President Bush is ahead by four points in the popular vote, at 52-48 per cent, but by a massive 280 votes in the electoral college, at 409-129.

Although most polls show that the majority of voters believe the Democratic vice-presidential candidate, Senator Lloyd Bentsen, outpointed the Republican, Senator Dan Quayle, the vice-presidential debate made little impact on the presidential race. And Mr Bush's lead is thought unlikely to have been dented by Thursday night's debate with Governor Michael Dukakis.

Eight key polls have been taken and published between the last two debates. Two polls — by CBS/New York Times and Gallup — registered 53 per cent for the Bush/Quayle ticket compared to 47 per cent for the Dukakis/Bentsen one, while three ABC/Washington Post, the Los Angeles Times and Black/USA Today — reported 52 per cent for the Republicans and 48 per cent for the Democrats. The other polls were also closely matched and with over 15,000 registered voters interviewed, the likelihood of error is of the order of no more than plus or minus 1 per cent.

The six-point lead for Mr Bush in the Gallup poll, however, widened to 11 when those answering the pollsters were filtered down to the most likely voters. This suggests that the Dukakis support is the weaker.

One poll's analysis suggests that without Mr Quayle, Mr Bush's lead would be even wider, perhaps by as much as 8 per cent, as one in six Dukakis supporters say they would be for Mr Bush without Mr Quayle as his running mate.

Fundists are making much of the Republican "lock" on the electoral college, pointing out that in every one of the last five elections the Republicans have won, in what is a first-past-

the-post system, some 23 of the 50 states, representing 262 electoral votes (270 votes are needed to win). The Democrats have only won the District of Columbia, with its three votes, on all five occasions.

Even worse for the Democrats, the Republicans have won no fewer than 36 states, with 354 votes, 84 more than needed, in four of the last five contests.

Today, Mr Bush is ahead in 40 states, while Mr Dukakis leads in only 10, plus the district of Columbia. On these figures, the MORI computer projection state by state would give 409 votes to Mr Bush and only 129 to Mr Dukakis.

In the key state of California, with 47 electoral votes, pre-debate level pegging has now moved to a two-point Dukakis lead. The candidates are now in a dead heat in Illinois (24 electoral votes), but in the third most populous state, Texas (29) polls have consistently given the Republicans a wide lead.

Most people say Mr Reagan's economic policies have been good for the country, and most say that they are better off. The growth rate of the American economy is currently 3.3 per cent, down by more than half the 6.8 per cent registered last year, but unemployment is also down, to 5.4 per cent this year against 7.5 per cent a year ago.

Issues do not count for much in presidential politics, but when asked about the issues no less than 43 per cent say that the economic issues are most important, contrasting with 22 per cent mentioning social and domestic concerns and 17 per cent matters of foreign policy.

The gender gap of the 1984 election, when more women than men supported the Democrats, has closed, with women now 52 per cent for Mr Bush and 48 per cent for Mr Dukakis, the same as men.

But if Mr Dukakis can persuade three voters in 100 to swing over to the Democrats, he can still win the presidency. Robert Worcester is Chairman of MORI.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Lisbon to scrap socialist law

Lisbon — Portugal's Social Democrats and Socialists, represented by Professor Anibal Cavaco Silva, the Social Democrat Prime Minister, and Dr Vitor Constancio, the Socialist leader, signed a 19-point agreement yesterday afternoon in Parliament which will provide a basis for changing Portugal's Constitution, adopted after the 1974 revolution (Martha de la Cal writes). The present Constitution has strong Marxist overtones and led to the nationalization of many industries.

In the proposed constitution, all Socialist ideology will be removed, and state-owned companies once more can be privatized. The new constitution will also permit binding national referendums and will slightly reduce the number of deputies in Parliament. The national health policy will also be affected and television will return to private hands.

Thatcher to visit

The Prime Minister's twice-postponed visit to Poland is to take place from November 2 to 4 and will include a meeting with Mr Lech Walesa, the leader of the Solidarity trade union, in Gdansk (Andrew McEwan writes).

The visit was originally delayed at Mrs Thatcher's request to avoid a clash with the June visit to Britain by President Reagan. It was then postponed a second time when the Polish Prime Minister resigned. Although there is little doubt that Warsaw initially objected to the meeting with Mr Walesa, Downing Street said the second delay did not mean that the Poles were having second thoughts, and this was borne out yesterday when sources confirmed that all the main elements of her schedule had been retained.

£1.5bn Danish link

Copenhagen — A century-old dream to build a permanent road-rail link connecting Denmark's two main islands at the mouth of the Baltic became reality yesterday, when the Danish Government and opposition parties agreed on the final details of a historic tunnel and bridge project (Christopher Follett writes).

Preparatory work on building the fixed link over the 11-mile waterway dividing east and west Denmark began in June. The £1.5 billion project is Denmark's most ambitious and costly construction scheme.

Botha for more talks

Johannesburg — President Botha of South Africa is to hold talks with a fourth black African leader, President Houphouët-Boigny of the Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) — on his way back from Portugal today (Michael Hornsby writes).

President Botha and his foreign minister, Mr R.F. "Pik" Botha, are expected to spend about three hours tonight in Yamoussoukro, the political capital of the Côte d'Ivoire on their way back home after a week in Europe.

Three airmen killed

Nancy, France (AFP) — Two British and one French non-commissioned air force officers were killed when their car crashed into a 100ft gully, police said. Peter Evans, aged 25, and Michael Rust, aged 26, of the 617th RAF squadron based in Norfolk, and a French officer were killed in the accident near Neuves-Maisons, eastern France.

Human rights in Algeria

Child deaths studied

From Christopher Walker, Algiers

In the face of blanket censorship of the local media and a ban on all political opposition, a brave attempt is being made to investigate allegations of serious breaches of human rights during the Algerian Government's harsh military repression of the country's popular uprising.

Among the charges levelled at President Chadli Benjedid's Socialist Government, the most grave concern the treatment of children, who made up a large percentage of the chanting mobs who looted and burned state property. It is widely alleged that children, some as young as seven or eight years old, were shot dead by the security forces, who frequently opened fire on unarmed demonstrators with machine guns. The notoriously ruthless Internal Security Service, whose brutality is a byword among teenagers in Algiers, is also accused of torturing minors among more than 1,000 people now detained.

The brutality and flagrant disregard for the judicial norms for which the Algerian penal system is known is seen by many as a legacy of the bloody war of independence against the French. As yet, no firm evidence to support the torture allegations has been produced, but a number of young people have spoken to journalists about the harsh measures used in

detention, especially against those regarded as Islamic extremists.

"The main idea appeared to be to frighten people against further demonstrating rather than extracting information from them," said a teenage resident of Bab-el-Oued, the Algiers slum where the rioting first began. One Western journalist held for interrogation reported that he was taken from a room in which he was being held and that screaming was later heard from a closed room nearby.

The investigation, which is being launched in the face of considerable government hostility, is being organized by the Algerian Human Rights League, which was legalized only in April 1987 and is run from offices in the centre of Algiers.

Its president, Mr Miloud Brahimi, a prominent Algerian lawyer, has told a press conference that all the allegations about torture, excessive use of force against unarmed civilians, unlawful detention and unjustifiably harsh prison sentences would be investigated by an independent commission. He emphasized that it would have no administrative authority to enforce any conclusions.

Mr Brahimi said that three members of the League and dozens of Algerian intellectuals and workers had been detained solely because of

their political views during the Government's massive security sweep. "We shall condemn in the strongest possible terms any of the allegations we discover to be true," he said.

Some of those picked up were trying to defend the buildings in which they worked against the mobs.

Western diplomats, who are well aware of the dubious methods practised by the Algerian security forces, praised the courage of the investigation.

Such independent internal investigations of excessive brutality by the security services are virtually unknown in the Arab world, a factor which has often permitted Israel to dismiss criticism of its Army's tactics against young Palestinians as hypocritical.

Mr Brahimi, who continually had to refuse attempts to draw him into banned political discussion, disclosed that the state-controlled Algerian press had refused to print two League communiqués protesting at the excessive force used to put down the uprising.

He supported the action of 70 Algerian journalists working for the official news agency who have issued a circular complaining about the impossible restrictions imposed on their coverage of the riots, and more particularly the methods used by the police and Army to repress them.

Yugoslav security alert before party meeting

From Dassa Trevisan, Belgrade

Security has been tightened throughout Yugoslavia and civil defence units placed on the alert in all the main cities before Monday's Central Committee meeting. The meeting has been convened amid political turmoil and an economic situation that is leading to growing social unrest.

Leave has been cancelled in defence institutions and security reinforced in factories and other institutions. Civil defence units have been warned to be on their guard against possible violence or sabotage.

A large monument known as "Motherland" was damaged by an explosion early yesterday on an island just off Trogir, near the Adriatic port of Split, the Tanjug news agency reported.

A copy of the monument is in Egypt, commemorating the stay of emigrants from Dalmatia in Sinai. Meanwhile, the Supreme Military Court extended the sentence on a journalist found guilty of leaking military secrets and upheld sentences on three other Slovenes whose trials caused public protests which shook Slovenia early in the summer.

The case, at one time raised questions over whether the Yugoslav military establishment was taking revenge on journalists working on the



Mr Milosevic: Accused of overstepping the mark.

newspaper Mladina, known for its criticism of the army. It also became a controversial issue also between the Slovene Communist leaders and the rest of Yugoslavia's political leadership.

Mr David Tasic, a journalist in this Slovene youth magazine, had his sentence increased from five to 10 months. Sentences on Mr Ivan Borstnar, a sergeant sentenced to four years, and Ivan Januz Jansa and Franci Zavr, both sentenced to 18 months imprisonment, were upheld.

In Montenegro, where the regional central committee is in session, tension receded somewhat after the Minister of the Interior resigned but fears of demonstrations have obviously prompted the Gov-

ernment there to issue an appeal to the nation to refrain from any public gatherings.

The Montenegrin Government has also given warning of attempts to bring people from outside the republic to the capital in order to exert pressure on the outcome of the debate. This is a clear reference to Serbian groups which gathered in the capital last week demanding the resignations of the entire Montenegrin leadership and hailing the Serbian leader, Mr Slobodan Milosevic, as a leader of the Montenegrins.

Obviously by moving his supporters outside Serbia's border Mr Milosevic has overstepped the mark prompting an avalanche of criticism and accusations from the rest of the country that Serbia is now trying to impose its leader and his authoritarian policies on the rest of the country.

This must have been the last straw which prompted the Yugoslav party praesidium and its president Mr Stipe Surar to issue a direct warning to Mr Milosevic on Thursday. VIENNA: Albania yesterday accused Mr Milosevic and his followers of spearheading a campaign of discrimination against Albanians similar to apartheid. The Albanian Communist Party daily, Zeri i Popullit, in a leading article warned Serbian nationalists "not to play with fire".

Sudanese airlift fails to reach worst afflicted areas

From Andrew Buckoke, Nairobi

There is no evidence that either side in the five-year-old civil war in southern Sudan is yet prepared to give up the use of food as a weapon, despite the carnage of recent months, when floods have exacerbated the long-term effects of drought and the disruption of agriculture by the fighting.

Though a government-approved, US-funded airlift to help victims of civil war and famine in southern Sudan began this week, with a target of 12 flights a day, it is so far only supplying people who have fled into fringe areas of the region. It may be impossible to extend the airlift into the most badly affected areas in the south, as Government consent for the operation may only apply to government-controlled towns.

The rebels will almost certainly try to disrupt any plan to send the

planes to southern towns, on the grounds that they will assist government garrisons. Most of them are under irregular siege by the Sudan People's Liberation Army, which claims to control 90 per cent of the southern hinterland.

The SPLA has repeatedly threatened to shoot down any planes flying over southern Sudan without its permission, and has downed two with a loss of 70 lives and hit several others.

Meanwhile, the Government has often refused to allow relief agencies who deal with the SPLA, in other words who ask for permission on the grounds that they will supply both sides, to operate in the south.

The International Committee of the Red Cross was recently given permission by the Government to operate on both sides in the south, but the SPLA is now apparently unhappy about the conditions. Unknown thousands are believed

to have died as they walk for weeks or months to seek refuge and food in northern Sudan, southern towns controlled by the army or even in Ethiopia. Over two million of the south's inhabitants, nearly half the total, are understood to have been displaced, most of them heading north.

The most badly affected areas are northern Bahr el Ghazal and the camps in southern Cordofan — considered part of northern Sudan — which already hold thousands of displaced people, with thousands more expected.

Four settlements in southern Cordofan are targeted for the early stages of the new relief operation, in which UN and private agencies are co-operating with the Sudanese Government.

These include Abyei, where 25,000 people ran out of food earlier this week and 35 to 100 people a day have been dying since June, accord-

ing to relief workers, el-Mekran, where 470 people, or 2 per cent of the 26,000 population, died in the last week of August alone; Bahama and el-Muglad, in both of which camps hundreds more have died.

In the south the situation is likely to be even worse. The towns of Wan and Aweil in Bahr el Ghazal province have been largely cut off for two years.

In Aweil alone 8,000 people are believed to have died between June and September, according to Dr Pacifico Lado Lado, a southern member of the Council of State, Sudan's collective head of state. He said that the only food he knew of in the two towns was the 13 tonnes he took to Wan on his military aircraft last week.

Malakal in the upper Nile province is understood to be similarly affected, as is Juba, once the southern capital and still the largest southern town and headquarters for

the southernmost of the three southern provinces, Equatoria.

Relief workers say there is now no food for the displaced people there, who account for about half the 200,000 population. Long-term residents may have some hoarded, but new supplies are unlikely to arrive.

The SPLA recently hit a Nile Safari charter cargo jet at Juba airport, and this week a narrow miss on a Sudan Airways passenger plane was reported. Since light weapons were apparently used, the rebels must be extremely close to the airport, and pilots are now apparently refusing to fly into it. Juba's only other source of supply is by road convey, north from Uganda, but recent SPLA ambushes on the route mean that many truck owners drivers now refuse to use it.

The attrition in the south looks set to continue, even if the US airlift manages a minor alleviation of the situation.

Soviet wind of change fails to melt West's export curbs

By Robert Fisk

The headquarters of the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls (Cocom) is widely believed to be secret. Some say that the men and women who try to stop the Soviet Union acquiring Western military technology are billeted in an anonymous, heavily guarded villa in Versailles.

In fact, the 30-strong Cocom secretariat is accommodated on the second floor of the US Embassy annex in Paris, a cheaply converted grey stone apartment block in the Eighth Arrondissement.

The location says something about the degree of political control that the Americans exert over the committee, whose officials are drawn from all but one of the Nato countries and Japan.

Cocom's task is to restrict Western exports to the Communist world. The Germans, ever anxious to increase their own trade with the Eastern bloc, are increasingly critical of the whole system; the Greeks reportedly turn a blind eye to it; the British fear that US export laws may impinge on UK export rights, and the Americans are quick to accuse

their partners of selling computer secrets to the East.

The Soviet Union is, of course, openly hostile. "That damn list" is how they describe the thousands of items which the Cocom nations refuse to sell them. Soviet leaders have repeatedly claimed that the list is used to keep their country backward in the most basic technology. In fact, the list itself and the very workings of Cocom have been thrown into confusion by the dawn of President Gorbachev's rule in the Soviet Union — so much so that Cocom officials who once fought shy of the press are now positively anxious to tell their story.

The most hawkish of them are the Americans, who are now so powerful that they are able to run a complex system from selling even their own home-grown technology to the Soviet Union.

Such diverse organizations as the Irish Government's "Export Control Delegation", the Swedish "Industrialists' Group", the Swiss Ministry of Defence, and South Korean business groups regularly attend meetings with Pentagon officials. "We don't put pressure on them," a US official told *The Times*. "And they know we are not

their enemy. But if they sell the wrong stuff to the Russians, they know they won't be getting any more technology from us."

The Cocom list is a subject of both secrecy and ignorance. In Turkey and Greece it remains officially classified. And, in all good faith, a senior US diplomat told *The Times* that the Cocom list of forbidden exports had not been published because, if it were, "it would tell the Soviets what they need to acquire".

Yet, in Britain, any exporter — or Soviet spy — can acquire the entire Cocom list simply by writing to the Department of Trade and Industry and asking for the documents, which will arrive through the post free of charge.

The Department's 104-page *Security export control* booklet is an exact copy of the Cocom list — including computer software details, specifics of missile parts and tank fuels — and it even classifies its material under the Cocom code numbers in use throughout Nato.

It is as well that European and American diplomats who work for Cocom never try to claim infallibility. "Cocom is not a wall, a censor — stuff gets through," an American official said. "At most it

is a floodgate that slows the Russians down."

"The trouble is that technology is a saleable commodity — the Soviets can get what they want in the end."

The Pentagon claims that Cocom creates a 15-year delay in the Soviet acquisition of Western computer software and other technology that can be put to military use. The British more conservatively put the "lag" at 10 years. It is impossible to know the

● We can disband Cocom when Moscow disbands its secret police ●

truth. In a few well-documented cases — the sale of Western machine-tools and computer software to the Soviet Union two years ago, for example — the export control body knows it has lost a battle.

In other cases, it believes it has won. The Americans recently prevented the sale of ruggedized military radios which were about to be exported for use — or so the export documentation claimed — on a Libyan fig farm.

In 1983, the Americans discovered that a Californian company had specially manufactured a lightweight flak jacket for Syrian troops in Lebanon.

The sale — Syria, like Libya, is classed as a Soviet ally — was stopped when it was discovered that even the US Marines under attack in Beirut did not possess such effective protection.

Even Soviet acquisition of Western technical secrets held its own paradoxical satisfaction for one US military officer who spoke to *The Times*.

"Firstly, the Russians have to pay for what they want — in hard cash," he said.

"Secondly, to acquire our technology, they've got to expose their people, their front men, their spies, to get the stuff."

"And they are delayed. When they get our stuff, we've advanced into better things ourselves. Cocom slows them down; that's its basic function."

The Europeans spend much of their time trying to prevent the unwitting sale of computer parts which can be adapted by the Soviet Union for use in battlefield control systems, armour, long-range wind measurements and other military applications.

The Americans, however, are equally concerned that Soviet scientists should not be given access to supercomputers; the Pentagon claims that visiting academics from the Soviet Union were able to see the long-range weather forecasting "supercomputer" at Reading in Berkshire, and enter a Cray supercomputer centre at Boulder, Colorado.

The US Defence Department has distributed a glossy pamphlet listing what it claims is the extent of Soviet dependence on Western technology.

European Cocom members are not entirely convinced by the booklet which, curiously, carries no indication of its US Government authorship — or even a printer's mark.

But it says that almost every Soviet long and short-term research project for military systems, amounting to more than 4,000 in the late 1970s and more than 5,000 in the early 1980s, benefited from the hardware of at least 12 Western countries.

If this is propaganda, it has nevertheless had its effect. Even neutral nations have their own reasons for freezing out the Soviet Union.

In Stockholm, for instance, the Swedish counter-intelligence service suspects the Soviet Union has "pulled" all the information on the Swedish population data bank into a computer of its own — presumably to acquire personal details that may allow it to recruit agents.

The Swedes were alerted to the fact when Soviet security men asked Swedish visitors to the Soviet Union for their Swedish Social Security numbers.

The Germans are foremost among the Europeans in seeking some amelioration of the Cocom rules now that *glasnost* is, at least in their eyes, a reality.

The Americans at the Pentagon are not so sure. "When the Soviets disband their secret police, then we can think about disbanding Cocom," another US military officer said.

"If that came about, I wouldn't mind seeing our ships put into Soviet ports."

"That would be good. A change in public attitudes (because of *glasnost*) is a problem — but we feel this is a bit of an emotional problem."

"We'll never give everything away. You never give away all you have."

Bhutto's party drops radical policies as poll battle begins

From Edward Gorman, Islamabad

Campaigning for what many here hope will be Pakistan's first truly democratic general elections on November 16 begins today against a background of frantic political manoeuvring by the main players.

In the most significant development, the Pakistan People's Party has finally announced its manifesto which, critics on all sides of the spectrum agree, only confirms the steady drift of a once left-wing party to the centre.

The 48-page document, which Miss Benazir Bhutto, the PPP leader, says is aimed at transforming Pakistan into a

Washington (NYT) — US experts sent to Pakistan to investigate the plane crash that killed President Zia have concluded that the crash was caused by a malfunction in the aircraft and not by a bomb or missile, but they refused to say if the malfunction could have been caused by sabotage.

They said the disintegration of the Lockheed C-130 on August 17, which killed 30 people, was caused by the force with which it hit the ground and not by a mid-air explosion.

"miracle Asian economic success story", reaffirms the party's long-standing commitment to the elimination of poverty and corruption, to social equality and justice, the restoration of democracy and the abolition of feudalism.

But the policy statement is perhaps more notable for what is missing. In particular, there are no calls for nationalization of industry, for radical realignments in foreign policy and, most important of all, cuts in the current enormous military budget.

Analysts say Miss Bhutto's main fear is not that she will

lose at the polls, but that the other parties will combine against her and prevent the PPP forming a government. While seeking to reassure the international financial community and Pakistan's principal ally, the United States, she is also going out of her way to appease the Army, which has never concealed its mistrust of "Bhuttoism" and which she fears may still try to thwart her coming to power.

"She's trying to reassure the establishment and everyone else that the PPP is no longer a rabidly socialist party," a Western diplomat commented. In an election that will be fought around personalities rather than policies, there is a perception here that the manifesto is likely to make little difference to the image of the party in the minds of the poor — its traditional constituency.

There are also signs, however, that Miss Bhutto's soft-left approach may have alienated many of her party workers. In several parts of the country she is facing rebellion in the ranks over her choice, from thousands of hopefuls, of candidates for National Assembly seats.

On the other side of the spectrum, the so-called Fida Muslim League, realigned under the nine-party Islamic Democratic Alliance, continues to strengthen its position against the rival Pakistan People's Alliance, led by Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, the former Prime Minister.

Despite apparently irreconcilable differences, talks between Mr Nawaz Sharif, the Punjab Chief Minister, representing Fida, and Mr Junejo's advisers in Lahore yesterday, may result in an electoral pact between the two sides. Sources close to the Fida group said an agreement may be reached under which the parties undertake not to compete against each other.

Safe passage after car bomb



A woman carrying her child past vehicles wrecked by a car bomb, which exploded in Muslim West Beirut yesterday killing three people and injuring 33. The blast was the latest in a series of attacks apparently aimed at undermining Syria's role in Lebanese affairs.

Kurdish tragedy forecast

By Hazhir Teimourian

A senior Iranian envoy arrived in Ankara yesterday to ask the Turkish Government to stop sending Kurdish refugees over the border into Iran.

Mr Ali-Reza Moayeri, the Deputy Prime Minister for Political Affairs, said that camps set up inside Iran in the province of West Azerbaijan for Iraqi Kurds were already stretched beyond capacity and that the arrival of more "could cause a human tragedy".

The Iranian envoy's unscheduled trip to Ankara came after witnesses in Turkish Kurdistan reported that all the 20,000 Iraqi Kurds at two camps near the town of Yeksekova had been taken to the Iranian border in a secret operation starting last Sunday

and told to make their way into Iran over the mountains.

The Iranians, who had not been expecting them, subsequently sealed the border.

Turkey denies that it is forcing the refugees to leave the camps. Official spokesmen claim that the Kurds were being ordered by their leaders to leave for Iran so that they could rejoin the fighting in Iraqi Kurdistan.

But a spokesman for the Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iraq yesterday denied this. Mr Hoshyar Zibari, a member of the party's central committee, said conditions inside the two camps at Yeksekova were "so atrocious" that many of the refugees felt they would "certainly die there if they

stayed". Western reports have spoken of up to a dozen Kurds, mainly children, dying from cold each night in one of the camps, Sansur.

Mr Zibari said that tents holding up to 18 people had been given eight thin blankets each, and even in the better-supplied camps, such as the ones near the city of Diyarbakir, each refugee was being given only a single piece of bread a day.

In the Iranian provinces of Kurdistan and West Azerbaijan about 40,000 new refugees have arrived over the past few weeks. Conditions at camps near Ziva and Urmia are said to be almost as harsh as those in Turkey, with many children facing death.

FROM A VILLAGE IN THE HIMALAYAS

Shopkeeper who was banking on credit

By Victor Zorza and Veeni Sandal

The shopkeeper's vice-like grip on the community was being threatened by the bank which had recently opened a branch in the village.

His knowledge of village affairs and wiles was unchallengeable and his power base firm. But if the bank won the villagers' confidence, his days of ease and prosperity would be numbered. Dhani Ram, the village's only shopkeeper, had a fight on his hands.

It was 40 years since he had come from the plains and settled among the villagers. But for the bank, even though it had ample capital, this was new ground.

Dhani Ram knew he had a rival in the bank, whereas the bank did not know it had a formidable adversary in the shopkeeper.

The villagers trusted him, but the bank was a new, unfamiliar presence which they distrusted. Dhani Ram knew each individual, each child in the village, their background, habits, hopes, dreams; to the bank, the villagers were just that — villagers.

Dhani Ram made the villagers welcome whenever they came to his shop, at any time of day or night, whether to make purchases or just to chat. But for one particular kind of transaction, he insisted, they must come only after dark. The villagers, too, preferred this arrangement, which gave them the illusion that the night hid their comings and goings.

Kedram the young Brahmin got away with two furtive trips to the shopkeeper before his secret became known: he had pawned his watch. The money enabled him to take advantage of a slump in potato seed prices in town.

Over the years, the *lala*, as a shopkeeper is called, had provided the villagers, rich and poor, with loans for a dozen different purposes — for weddings, funerals, emergencies. To the villagers, frequently short of cash, his willingness to lend money was a boon. So was his readiness to sell on credit the basic necessities: rice, flour, lentils, matches, salt, clothes, shoes, medicines, pots and pans.

His lending rates varied from person to person, situation to situation. He set lower rates of interest on loans for the poor, but higher rates for those who could afford it.

The amounts borrowed seldom exceeded a few hundred rupees. The two rupees' interest a month he charged on a hundred-rupee loan (10p interest on £4) might not seem a big sum, but the *lala* had his own philosophy, and he was fond of expounding it to villagers: never think in terms of small sums, think always of the big total that small sums can make.

Every now and then the *lala* was saddened with a bad debt. Either a villager just did not have the cash, or kept promising to pay back, year after year, and never did. The *lala*

had not allowed such losses to bother him and continued to rely on the borrowers' word rather than demand a written agreement. If somebody did not honour the undertaking, the *lala* shrugged his shoulders and blamed himself for being a poor judge of character.

The shopkeeper did not only dispense loans, but offered sound business suggestions. "I give you the ideas from which you profit," he quipped.

"True," one of the villagers acknowledged good-humouredly, "but that's to make sure we borrow from you."

He had lately advised Prakash, an enterprising but poor Harijan, to become a muleteer. Prakash would need 7,000-8,000 rupees (£880-£320), a fortune in village terms, and Dhani Ram was aware that no other villager would lend that much. There was the bank, of course, though its interest rates were much higher than those of the *lala*.

But when the new government scheme to support village projects, by channelling money through the bank was announced,



the *lala* was caught on the wrong foot. His carefully laid calculations went awry when Prakash turned to the bank, and some other villagers followed.

Jolted out of his complacency, the *lala* watched the bank advance relentlessly into his domain as it extended loans to three villagers who wanted to open shops. The bank was not only drawing away many of those who had depended on him for money; it was setting up others in business to compete with him.

But most villagers were still undecided. Should they continue to give their custom to the *lala* who had stood by them in times of need, or should they patronize the new, cheaper shop? Some villagers suggested he too should lower his prices, but the *lala* stood firm. "Take the goods at my rates or not at all," he responded coldly.

He was close to defeat. Yet he was determined to wrest the initiative from the bank, now riding on a wave of success. He knew that if he did not fight back, he might have to cut his roots, leave the village, and, at 60, start life anew — if he could.

© Victor Zorza & Veeni Sandal, 1988

Next Saturday: The village wants a school

EEC wrangle over 1992

Worker law 'irrelevant'

From Richard Owen, Luxembourg

Britain yesterday took a firm stand against a proposed EEC-wide company statute guaranteeing employees' rights in the European single market of 1992.

During preliminary discussions of such a law here, Mr Francis Maude, Minister for Corporate Affairs, told EEC Trade Ministers that the Government had sounded out British firms on the European Commission's ideas and that responses so far indicated that a majority saw little or no need for company law to be harmonized throughout Europe.

Mr Maude said Britain would press the Commission to provide justification for an EEC company statute as much of British industry regarded it as "irrelevant".

But several other EEC countries — including The Netherlands, Italy and France — yesterday said that, unlike Britain, they were "disposed to favour" some form of EEC-wide legislation, or at least the incorporation into national company law of an EEC regulation, as proposed by Lord Cockfield, the Commissioner for the Internal Market.

West Germany also indicated support, but said it feared that if EEC legislation was weaker than existing German law on worker participation — known as *Mitbestimmung* — this could enable German companies to undermine or circumvent existing German arrangements for giving shop floor workers a voice on company boards.

In her speech in Brussels last month, Mrs Thatcher said that the EEC "certainly does not need new regulations which raise the cost of employment and make Europe's labour market less flexible and less competitive with overseas suppliers".

The Prime Minister added: "If we are to have a European company statute, it should

contain the minimum regulations." Britain yesterday fought any attempt to introduce "collectivism and corporatism" at the European level, Mrs Thatcher said.

Lord Cockfield said yesterday that the European Commission, which circulated its first consultative document on worker participation in July, would issue a further paper based on EEC government responses next month.

The Commission is asking governments, companies and trade unions whether an EEC company statute should be optional for European firms and how such a statute should mesh with national legislation. It is also asking what degree of worker participation is desirable.

Asked about the fiscal implications of an EEC company law, a Commission spokesman said that an EEC-wide statute would enable a company operating across borders in the single market to balance losses in one member country against profits in another.

At their meeting yesterday, which focused on the approaching halfway point in the EEC's programme for the abolition of frontiers by the year 1992, the Trade Ministers approved amendments to a 1970 directive on public works contracts.

Under the new rules, public authorities throughout the EEC will have to offer works contracts such as large construction projects with a value of over £35m to public tender, accepting bids from firms anywhere in the EEC on an equal basis.

The new rules tighten up the penalties for non-observance of this directive, and oblige public authorities to advertise large contracts throughout Europe and in the EEC's official journal.

Lange uses UN pact to pursue French agent

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

Three years after the explosion which sank Greenpeace's flagship in Auckland harbour, the ghost of the "Rainbow Warrior" still stalks the corridors of power in France.

In the latest twist to an affair that is causing the Socialist Government all sorts of headaches, New Zealand has invoked the terms of the UN-sponsored "peace treaty" to decide the fate of Alain Mafart, the secret service agent convicted for his part in the bombing.

The decision to go for arbitration over Mafart follows the failure of high-level talks last summer between the French authorities and senior officials from New Zealand. To the uneducated dismay of the French, Mr David Lange's Government has not budged an inch in its determination to get Mafart sent back to the South Pacific atoll of Hao for completion of the sentence he was meant to be serving there until June, 1989.

Despite the best efforts of the Foreign Minister, M Roland Dumas — a veteran diplomat known for a deft negotiating touch — Wellington has resisted all suggestions of "compensation" in the form of hard cash or a benevolent agreement over

the ever-thorny issue of New Zealand's agricultural imports by the EEC.

Observers here say that having accepted as a *fait accompli* the return from Hao of the other convicted bomber, Dominique Prieur, who is now six months pregnant, Mr Lange (like most of his fellow citizens) is in no mood for a second climbdown.

The affair is, of course, further complicated by French politics. It was a Socialist Government that ordered the attack on the "Rainbow Warrior" in July 1985. It was the conservatives, under Mr Jacques Chirac, then Prime Minister, who decided to repatriate Mafart on questionable



Mafart: French politics will play a key role in his fate.

Hirohito stable

Tokyo (AP) — The ailing Emperor Hirohito remained in serious but stable condition yesterday as the Foreign Ministry announced that a planned state visit by President Roh of South Korea had been postponed in deference to the monarch's illness. The world's longest-reigning monarch has been bedridden since September 19 when he vomited blood. Reports, quoting sources close to palace physicians said that the emperor's medical team was worried about progressing jaundice and continued internal bleeding.

Dinghy escape Bhopal switch

Bad Bramstedt (Reuters) — An East German family of four fled across the Baltic in a motorized dinghy to the West German island of Fehmarn, according to reports in this West German resort.

Soviet concern Haiti march

Moscow (Reuters) — The Soviet authorities, alarmed by disciplinary problems within the armed forces, have expressed serious concern at the number of young men who have been evading compulsory military service.

Route reopens

Islamabad (AFP) — Pakistan International Airlines has decided to resume flights to Iran and Iraq after eight years of disruption due to the Gulf War, the official Associated Press of Pakistan said.

Arch repairs

Paris (AP) — The Arc de Triomphe will be closed for about two months from Monday for repairs costing £2.3 million after water and pollution damage to the monument.

Seoul award

Seoul (AP) — A South Korean court ordered the Government to pay \$68,000 to the family of a student demonstrator, Lee Han Yul, whose death last year sparked off nationwide protests.

TIMES DIARY

SIMON BARNES

To lose a cricket ball may be regarded as a misfortune, but to lose a cricket ball with which you took eight for 43 against Australia in 1981 looks like demerit. Yet Bob Willis, the bowler who achieved that impossible victory at Headingley, is getting rid of all his cricket gear. Willis, who now runs a company based at the Cafe Royal, as befitted the man who has always been regarded as the Oscar Wilde of cricket, has put all his trophies and memorabilia up for auction at Christie's, South Kensington, this Thursday.

The eight-for-43 ball is in the same lot as a couple of medals, and is expected to fetch £80-£120, though I fancy the organizers have underestimated the appeal of that particular object. After all, it nearly decapitated Trevor Chappell, and that must add a good deal to its historic value.

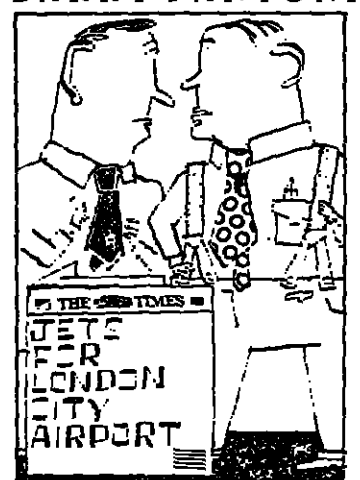
I rang Willis to ask why, and discovered he was on the cruise ship, Canberra. I finally reached him during what he claimed was a break from a game of deck cricket played in a force 10 gale. "I've never been one to make my home into a shrine to myself," he said. "I always kept all the trophies and things in a suitcase. Now I've just moved from Birmingham to Clapham, and I've got less space. So I thought, why shouldn't someone who would really appreciate the stuff have it?" Willis said he is neither broke nor disillusioned with cricket, just getting on with real life. And that magic cricket ball? He has never taken it out of its box.

I can report a great leap forward for Alvechurch, of soccer's Beazer Homes League. They have just acquired a sponsorship by The Rockin' Berries. Those of long and unselective memories will recall that The Rockin' Berries were a pop group of the Sixties, whose greatest hit was a ditty called "He's in Town". Their leader, Jeff Turton, is a life-long supporter of Alvechurch, and he offered sponsorship this season on hearing that the club was in a spot of financial difficulty. He is now on the board, and the players perform in shirts that read "Sponsored by The Rockin' Berries".

It is not often I feel sympathy for anyone involved in the America's Cup — indeed, it is not often I can stay awake long enough. But I cannot help but feel a pang for Warwick Collins. He came up with a gem of an idea for a film script. It was all based on the fictional hypothesis: what if the Russians decided to move in on the America's Cup? And say they won it? This daring and impossible idea was going down well, when Moscow decided to launch not one, but four America's Cup challenges. Collins has had the wind comprehensively taken out of his sails.

The sad story of Ben Johnson continues from superior to footnote. The Guinness Book of Records people met last Wednesday and spent a long and anguished time discussing what to do about Johnson's sensational victory in the 100 metres at the Olympics, in which he set a world record time of 9.79 seconds. In the end, they decided to make the greatest sprint in history a footnote, with the information that Johnson was disqualified after failing a drug test. The time he set in Rome last year, 9.83 seconds, will still stand as the world record... and still smell faintly, as well, but there is nothing the Guinness people can do about that.

BARRY FANTONI



'The plane's wonderfully quiet — it's the noise of Nigel getting off that's the problem'

This column salutes Simen Agdestein, who has just been selected to play as striker for Norway against Italy on Wednesday. Agdestein is not only a fine footballer, he is also Norway's only chess grandmaster. He is now 20, and reached his grandmaster status after beating Boris Spassky two years ago. He is the top goal-scorer for the division two club Lyn, of Oslo, and will play at least one half of the match in Pescara next week and, if all goes well, will play against Cyprus in the World Cup qualifying match on November 2. Scottish readers please start trembling now: Norway are in the same group as Scotland, Cyprus, France and Yugoslavia.

Mighty Penzance football club of the South-western League are a fine example of the principle that you don't get anywhere if you never ask. This season they have already played Liverpool, and later, they will play Celtic. It all comes down to their third team goalie, Ian Yeoward. Yeoward is secretary of the Liverpool Supporters Club, which runs a coach to Anfield — 320 miles away — to see the lads at least once a month in the season. He had the cheek to ask Liverpool to send a team to celebrate the club's centenary this season. Liverpool agreed. Yeoward played the last 10 minutes, Liverpool won 6-0. As the world knows, Liverpool's opposition teams are supposed to be intimidated by the sign over the tunnel that reads "This Is Anfield". The Liverpool players trooped on to the pitch at Penzance to be greeted by a sign that read "This Is Penzance Park". Yeoward later went to Anfield, met the Liverpool manager, Kenny Dalglish, and, by coincidence, the Celtic manager, Billy McNeill. Dalglish explained the connection, and McNeill responded: "If they're good enough for you, they're good enough for us". Celtic go down to Penzance Park in March.

Philadelphia
"Dukakis has to win the debate by a knock-out if he's to win the election." So said most commentators on the eve of Thursday night's televised debate with George Bush.

Well, Dukakis didn't win by a knock-out. He didn't win at all. He didn't even go on the attack. Throughout the debate Bush seemed effortlessly in charge. Dukakis sounded like a governor of Massachusetts, anxious to be on good terms with the next president of the United States.

Those millions of Americans whose attention until now has been exclusively engrossed by the baseball World Series are likely to look up and take note that a guy named Bush is about to become president and many of them are likely to vote in accordance with that perception.

In terms of national polls, Bush is still only marginally ahead. But in terms of votes in the electoral college — state by state — Bush is generally rated as being very near the 270 electoral votes required for victory. And both candidates on Thursday night sounded as if they agreed with that assessment.

The Democrats can hope that the polls underestimate their strength. They can hope that, in the big cities, many of those who tell pollsters they are "undecided", will "in the privacy of

Conor Cruise O'Brien assesses the race factor in the US election

Jackson's boon to Bush

the voting booth" — as Dukakis himself put it at the beginning of the campaign — vote for the Democratic ticket. It may still be so, in some of the big northern cities. But Dukakis, on Thursday night, didn't sound like a man who had much confidence in the privacy of the voting booth.

"Reagan prosperity" and "Reagan popularity" — now well recovered from its intransigent nadir — are obviously working against the Democrats. But the Democrats have also a structural problem, which is likely to stay with them long after Reagan has passed from the scene. Basically the problem is racial. All whites who have any tincture of racist feeling have been voting Republican since 1980. And that's an awful lot of whites.

The Republicans get some black votes — an estimated 10 per cent to 12 per cent. There are middle-class blacks who vote in accordance with their perceived interests without regard to race. The Republicans make no appeal to the black poor. The

Democrats do. And it hurts them with the white electorate — and also with those middle-class blacks who are most likely to vote.

This is where "the Jackson factor" comes in, and is hurting the Democrats probably more than anything else, although it is not often referred to in the concluding stages of this campaign. It is not Jackson's fault that it is hurting; at least not now. Jackson has been avoiding national publicity since the Democratic convention, and has been working loyally in the black areas for a Democratic ticket which does not include him. But the damage has already been done. Jackson's name is not on the ticket, but his shadow is all over the ticket in the eyes of whites who care about such things: which includes the whole white South and many in the North as well. Many white Democrats voted for Dukakis in the primaries to stop Jackson. Many of those same Democrats are likely to vote for Bush in the

presidential election for exactly the same reason.

On Thursday night, right before the televised presidential debate, CBS ran a programme about AIDS. The programme began by announcing that while 75 per cent of Americans say they sympathize with victims of AIDS, the proportion drops to only 25 per cent where the victims are drug abusers. At this point the cameras took us into a particularly sinister and derelict section of some inner city, possibly Washington, DC. In the background, a roll of drums could be heard. We were told that the drumming was the work of drug-pushers, warning of an alien presence, that of CBS Television. Perhaps it was, though it did occur to me that it might possibly be the work of CBS sound effects.

Then we had an interview with a group of people at high risk from AIDS: prostitutes who were also drug abusers. The prostitutes were all black. They talked quite freely. They were

gentle, vague people who seemed untried to horrors, and not particularly worried about an extra one, such as dying of AIDS.

The CBS programme carried no overt political message, and was possibly devoid of political intent. But it could not fail to have political impact. The scene portrayed was one that is profoundly repulsive to most Americans. Poor blacks are bad news. Many Americans wish they would all die of AIDS and the sooner the better. And Americans remember that poor blacks have a spokesman, and that he is a leading member of the Democratic Party: Jesse Jackson.

It is true that Jesse Jackson is strongly opposed to drug abuse and preaches against it in the ghettos. But nuances like that tend to get lost in the emotional atmosphere surrounding a presidential election.

The Bush-Quayle ticket is about as weak one as the Republicans could well field. The implications of a Bush-

Quayle victory would be correspondingly grave for the future of the Democratic Party. Such a victory would imply that the presidency is becoming a Republican electoral apogee.

Barring an economic disaster — which is not impossible — the Democrats, if they lose in 1988, could not reasonably hope to recover the presidency during the present century. Unless the Republicans are hit by some fresh scandal in the next few weeks — or unless the "privacy of the voting booth" factor turns up trumps for the Democrats — it looks as if Bush-Quayle is going to win on November 8.

The Southern whites, in the 1960s and '70s, lost the struggle over civil rights, and the struggle for control of the Democratic Party in their region. But it looks as if, through their defection to the Republicans in presidential contests, they may be recovering some of their old ascendancy in national politics. If Bush-Quayle wins, future appointments are likely to tilt the Supreme Court in a "Southern" direction, cutting back on civil rights. If the Democrats retain control of the Senate, that trend can be resisted. But at the present time, from the point of view of those who welcomed the civil rights advances of the past two decades, the omens don't look too good.

Robert Armstrong

In pursuit of Spycatcher



Peter Wright — 'he has destroyed his credibility as a witness of truth'. Below, yesterday's headline

David Owen on the significance of the Spycatcher judgement

The law to the rescue

fessed "fall-guy" in this affair. That was Mr Malcolm Turnbull's description. I have never so described myself, and it would be unfair to all concerned to let that stand without comment. When the Government decided to seek an injunction in the New South Wales court, it was clear that someone would have to swear an affidavit and to appear in the court as a witness for the Crown. Those responsible for the conduct of the case considered the various possibilities and came to the conclusion that that someone should be me.

It would be tedious to go into their reasons for coming to that conclusion; suffice it to say that I was convinced by their reasons and concurred in the conclusion, though I cannot say that I particularly relished the prospect. Even with all the benefit of hindsight, I still think that it was on balance the right conclusion. In his article yesterday Dr

Owen suggested that by far the most serious aspect of the whole Spycatcher affair was that when I gave evidence in the New South Wales court I did not know, because the Security Service had held back from me, and by inference from the Prime Minister, that there was an intermediary through whom an advance copy of Mr Chapman Pincher's book, *The Trade Is Treachery*, reached the Security Service, and that I was not informed that the publishers had been told, through the intermediary, that the Security Service were not taking steps to prevent publication or to suggest modifications to the text.

If that were true, it would indeed be a serious criticism of the Security Service. Fortunately it is completely untrue. That bird won't fly. The Security Service told me at the time not only that they had received an advance copy of the book — indeed I saw

a copy — but also how and through whom it had reached them. As I told the High Court in London a year ago, I was not told at the time that the intermediary had offered to ensure that the publisher did not proceed with the publication; but, even if I had known that, I think that I should still have agreed with the conclusion then reached by the Government that no steps should be taken through the intermediary or otherwise to try to prevent publication or seek deletions or modifications.

The advice was that the Government could not go to the court for an injunction without breaching the confidence under which the advance copy had been provided — just as, when I asked the publishers for a copy of the book a day or two before publication, I could not disclose without breach of confidence that an advance copy was already in the hands of the Government. Incidentally the fact that I did not, because I could not without breach of confidence, volunteer that information to the publishers, and that alone — not any of my evidence to the court — was what I categorised as, in the words of Edmund Burke, an "economy with the truth". It is clear that in such circum-

stances any attempt to prevent publication by other means than an injunction would be very unlikely to succeed: even if one publisher could be persuaded not to publish such a book, another publisher would no doubt be prepared to take it on. And the danger of seeking deletions or modifications in such circumstances is that they tend to appear by implication to confirm the truth or validity of what is proposed for deletion or modification.

So when I went into the witness box in Sydney I had long been well aware that there had been an intermediary, who the intermediary was, and of the gist of the message that had gone back to the publishers through the intermediary. By that time it was widely known that the Government had received an advance copy of the book; and I was able to tell the court that it had not been obtained by illegal or improper means, though the author and publisher were not aware at the time that the Government had received an advance copy. During the hearing of my evidence in the case Mr Turnbull, visibly prompted not only by Mr Paul Greengrass but also by some of the representatives of the British press who had come to report the proceedings, was not above the occasional fishing expedition for information — which was at best only marginally relevant to his main case and which I was for good reasons sometimes reluctant to share with him — and then.

So it was in this instance. He tried to get the name of the intermediary out of me; but in the end the learned judge came to my support, suggesting that the identity of the intermediary was not essential to the case and that I should not be further pressed to give the name, and I did not do so.

It is all, looking back on it now, an extraordinary story. I almost regret that I am not about to write my memoirs.

© Times Magazine, 1988
Lord Armstrong retired as Chief Secretary to the Cabinet in December, 1987.

Commentary • PETER BRIMELOW

Against every trend

New York
The scene was the boardroom of a Wall Street firm, all polished wood and leather chairs. The diet was lunch: salad and diet soft drinks. (This is America — businessmen don't drink during the day.) The drama was one played out all over the country every election season, a political candidate appealing for funds.

The difference, apart from the presence of one or two thirsty journalistic interlopers like myself, was the candidate. Alan Keyes, the Republican nominee for the Senate in Maryland, is one of the very small group of black conservative intellectuals. His Senate race (Americans run for office, they don't stand for it) raises serious, even poignant questions.

Keyes is a handsome, bearded man of medium height. He is only 38, but admiring reports of his abilities have been circulating on the conservative network for years. The son of an army sergeant major, Keyes was awarded a PhD in government studies at Harvard and joined the State Department. During the Reagan administration he was a US representative to the United Nations and an assistant secretary of state before joining a conservative Washington think tank. He is married with two children.

In the small gathering, Keyes was eloquent and forceful. His position on current political issues is impeccably right-wing Republican, to the point where his opposition to gun-control is expected to earn him support

from rural Marylanders turning out to vote against a gun-ban measure that, by a happy coincidence, happens to be on the state ballot this year.

American blacks vote almost unanimously Democratic. Keyes thinks he can alter that by offering a stronger law-and-order, anti-drug approach and by advocating what he calls "empowerment." This is an adroit reversal of a favourite Jesse Jackson slogan. What Jackson means by empowerment is more federal spending. What Keyes means is weaning blacks from their dependence on government redistributive programmes and bureaucracies over which they have no control.

Perhaps 25 per cent of Maryland's population is black. If Keyes can make inroads into it while holding on to the 40 per cent of the vote that previous contests suggest is the Republican base support, then in theory he could beat the entrenched incumbent, Paul Sarbanes, a former Rhodes Scholar and one of the most prominent liberals in the Senate.

Keyes and his managers cite polls showing favourable trends. He is ahead, they say, among Marylanders who have heard of him — but that is still less than half the population with only four weeks to election day. He desperately needs money, or a campaign visit from President Reagan.

This is where the questions begin. Sarbanes is extremely well-financed, as incumbent senators with places on powerful

committees invariably are nowadays. It is becoming increasingly clear that the campaign financing "reforms" enacted in the 1970s after Watergate quietly gave incumbents a decisive money-raising advantage over challengers.

Moreover, Maryland is a difficult state for Republicans. Apart from a large black vote, it also contains a garrison of civil servants who march daily across the state line to Washington DC. They, and their families, are naturally addicted to government programmes. The emergence of this "new class" as a distinct and self-conscious interest group constitutes one of the most interesting sociological trends of the late 20th century.

There also seems to be some doubt whether Reagan will actually campaign for Keyes, although he is said to have expressed the desire to do so. His staff allegedly want to "protect" him — perhaps because his physical condition, like that of Winston Churchill in his last ministry, is shockingly worse than is generally realized.

However, close observation of the White House professional political staffers leads me to suspect they would resist committing Reagan even if he were frolicking daily in the Fountain of Youth. A love of petty power for its own sake is the glaucoma of all political organizations.

Finally, America's racial problem may simply be too intractable. The so-called "Reagan Democrats", the working-class

whites who voted Republican in the last two presidential elections, were motivated by a profound cultural revulsion from the liberals now in control of their traditional party that could easily be triggered by the sight of any black politician, even a black conservative Republican. And the leadership of the black community has itself so intimately benefited from government welfare programmes that Keyes' message about their failure to improve the lot of the black majority may well not get through.

It would no doubt be a better world if the Republicans could look to candidates like Alan Keyes to win back their Senate majority. But the cruel truth is that the party could probably do better by concentrating on winning the rest of the white vote.

Keyes has chosen to break with the dominant orthodoxy of his community — indeed, of Harvard and the entire intelligentsia — without any obvious possibility of reward. It is a display of such stark independence that it is no surprise to learn he is rejected as tokenism the Bush campaign's efforts to have him speak at the New Orleans convention this year as a "black Republican" and instead wrote his own speech on an entirely different theme. He seems to me a heroic, even tragic figure.

©Footnote. Amazingly, opinion polls in Maryland show Bush ahead in the contest. If so, that's a landslide you hear rumbling. The author is a senior editor of Forbes Magazine.

OCT 15 ON THIS DAY 1886

On the advice of nine of the ten provincial governments, Lord Dufferin, the Viceroy, delayed reform of this domestic custom, deeply rooted in Hindu religious feelings, until Indian public opinion declared itself more openly in favour.

THE HINDOO CHILD-WIDOW

(From a correspondent)

How great are the wrongs inflicted and how serious are the difficulties in the way of reform may be learned from an article in the last number of the *Asiatic Quarterly Review*. In that article Mr W.W. Hunter sets forth both the magnitude of evil, and the various native movements now on foot to deal with it. There are over 20 millions of widows in India, and two million of them belong to castes who practice child-marriage and insist on the celibacy of their widows. These customs are not enforced with equal rigour in all parts of India, nor among all castes. But, broadly speaking, there are about two million Indian women of good family who are condemned to a life of penance or of shame.

This, however, is a very mild statement of the case. For it must be remembered that the "celibacy of enforced widowhood in India" is aggravated by circumstance that a vast number of widows have only been wives in name. In Bengal 271 Hindu girls out of every thousand between the ages of five and ten are married, and no fewer than 666 between the ages of 10 and 14. This applies to the general Hindu population. But among the higher castes, who

enforce the celibacy of their widows, the proportion is much higher.

It is essential for the honour of a Hindu family of good caste that it should contain an unmarried daughter of mature years. The existence of such a daughter is not only a social disgrace, but a religious crime. When, therefore, a female infant is born, the first idea in her father's mind is not one of pleasure, but simply how to find a husband for her. It is not necessary that she should become a wife in our sense of the word. It suffices that she should be given in marriage, and go through the ceremony of the Seven Stages, which completes the religious rite. Aged Brahmins of good family still go about the country, marrying, for a pecuniary consideration, female infants whom they sometimes never see again. Within the memory of men still living this abominable practice was a flourishing trade. A Kulin Brahmin, perhaps white-haired, half blind, and decrepit, went the round of his best seats, spring, going through the ceremony of marriage with such female infants as were offered, and pocketing his fee, and perhaps never returned to the child's house. So long as he lived she could marry no other man; when he died she became a widow for life. The Hindu child-widow is looked upon as a thing apart and accursed, bearing the penalty in this world for sins which she has committed in a past existence. Her hair is cut short, or her head is shaved, altogether; she exchanges her pretty childish clothes for the widow's coarse and often astringent garments; she is forbidden to take part in any village festival or family gathering; the very sight of her is regarded as an ill omen.



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TRAVELLING TOO LIGHT

During the recent debate on our pages about Britain's transport problems, there have been a number of calls for a clearer framework of policy within which the Government's various proposals — including those announced by Mr Channon this week — might be put. Is there, for example, a putative map for the future shape of Britain's road and rail links into which the suggestions for introducing private ownership might fit?

Is there a blueprint upon which the Channel tunnel or the expansion at Stansted airport can be related to clogged north-south roads? Is there a model to show how the tidal flows of people and vehicles to be generated at Paddington, Waterloo and King's Cross will wash into the capital?

Mr Channon's response is clear. Not only is there no such map or plan but the very idea of large-scale transport planning is — he appears to say — anachronistic, a throw-back to the era when governments thought they knew better than motorists, lorry drivers and financiers about how and where goods and people should move.

The Channel tunnel has already been promoted on this basis. Private entrepreneurs put up their money for the tunnel itself, a specific piece of the transport jigsaw, leaving other agencies, mostly public, to sort out access. What Mr Channon proposed at Brighton this week was that one of those access routes to the tunnel should itself be a private sector project, not necessarily mounted by the owners of the tunnel.

A new purpose-built railway through Kent might even, he hinted, pick up commuter traffic from Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks. The implication was that the promoters of the line would make their own arrangement with feeder agencies (presumably British Rail). The

problem is that transport, especially the building of new road or rail links, bridges or tunnels, presupposes a communal interest of sufficient weight to override the objections of local land or property owners. The promoters of the private rail line to the tunnel will obviously need the support of a parliamentary Bill putting their interests above those of any Wealden farmers or Lewisham home-owners who might not be willing to sell their property.

Yet the elevation of that common interest above local concerns works on the basis of a national interest. How can the Transport Secretary define a national interest in, for example, a new Severn crossing or a privately financed road unless he has an intelligible map?

It is the business of the private sector to calculate whether building a new bridge across the Severn would give financial returns. But it is the business of the State to take account of the environmental damage and disruption the construction might cause; and to weigh the interests of the promoters of the bridge against local interests.

The State can best do that if the bridge fits into some more general scheme for roads and rail in Wales and the West, also into some longer term view of the shape of the "M4 corridor". The capacity of private capital to build roads and railways is not in question. The desirability of private involvement is also great. But that does not absolve government ministers from balancing private and public concerns, from weighing local and national interests.

That cannot always be done ad hoc. Mr Channon may not have a "plan", but he needs better to show a grasp of longer-term considerations.

HOW MUCH IS THAT ROUBLE?

The Kremlin's declared ambition of transforming the rouble into a convertible international currency is as indispensable to Soviet economic modernization as it is fraught with difficulty. Soviet leaders admit that it will take a decade or more for the West, the determination with which it is pursued will indicate the strength of the Soviet leaders' determination to integrate their society as well as their economy with the wider world.

Foreign trade earnings form only 6 per cent of Soviet national income. Its staple exports, oil, gas and raw materials, have been hit by the fall of the dollar, in which their prices are denominated. It needs Western expertise and equipment to upgrade its shoddy manufacturing industries and to crack world markets. But the lack of a hard currency is a major obstacle to cultivating joint ventures with Western companies. This is one reason why the Politburo's master plan for the expansion of foreign trade, announced this week, puts rouble convertibility squarely on the agenda.

The plan is less revolutionary ideologically than economically. The Soviet State did once, between 1922 and 1926, issue a gold rouble. But an economic minefield awaits reformers. To get through it will mean an end to the system of placing enterprises in separate foreign currency departments — a system which has yielded more than 2,000 different internal exchange rates.

A few enterprises have been allowed, under *perestroika*, to conduct their foreign trade direct, but a policy of exceptions is clearly inadequate. Converting this state-controlled anarchy into the order of the market-place will be a Herculean task.

The first step, and the hardest, is to create a common internal exchange rate based on the laws of supply and demand. The next goal, Soviet leaders believe, is to make the rouble a

common "socialist currency" for the 10-nation Soviet trading bloc, Comecon, in parallel with the European Monetary System.

This plan, put to Comecon ministers in the wake of the Politburo meeting, got a cool reception: there was agreement on the goal but none on the next steps. They may well have argued that the Soviet leadership is trying to run before it can walk. Opinion on rouble convertibility is still divided among Soviet economists, and its economic record is hardly an incentive for Comecon governments to align their many different tax, pricing, cost assessment and financial regulations according to Moscow's blueprints.

The reluctance of its Comecon partners will disturb Moscow, because the stakes here are political as well as economic. Senior Soviet officials have recently articulated their fear of being left on the sidelines by Western Europe's economic integration, unless Comecon follows suit.

They foresee, the Soviet ambassador to Bonn has acknowledged, that otherwise the European Community, which already has far-reaching agreements with countries like Hungary, will create "an all-European branch of the North Atlantic bloc" rather than resting content with "co-operation between the two systems". Such nervousness can only have been reinforced by Lord Young's evocation at the Conservative Party conference of a European Community which embraced Eastern Europe.

Whatever the prospects for a Comecon common market, it is in Western interests to assist the Soviet Union to master the steps towards converting the rouble into a hard currency. A Soviet Union more closely integrated into the international economy would be more transparent. It would also provide a better basis for political freedom.

ROYAL PROGRESS

A month after Mrs Thatcher paid the first official visit by a British Prime Minister to Spain, the Queen next week becomes the first reigning monarch to do so. For two countries which are currently remembering their most famous clash of arms four centuries ago and are still riven by the Gibraltar question, this deepening of their relationship is very welcome.

The royal connection, to some extent, has shown the way. The real jewel in the British crown is, after all, Spanish — the Black Prince's ruby, which was donated by King Pedro the Cruel, in gratitude for services rendered during the Hundred Years War.

Relations between the royal families have had their ups and downs since then, particularly under the Tudors, and arguably have never been quite as close again until now. Princess Beatrice of York is said to have been so named as a gesture to King Juan Carlos, whose great grandmother (and Queen Victoria's youngest daughter) was the last member of the family to bear the name.

It thus reflects the closeness between Juan Carlos and Buckingham Palace. The relationship is particularly close with the Prince and Princess of Wales.

This has wide political implications because of the Spanish king's influence in Spain. While it may remain true that he is more popular abroad than at home, his political integrity and his support for democratic government in Spain has made him a valuable friend and powerful ally.

This might not always have been apparent to the outside world. He turned down an invitation to the Prince of Wales's wedding seven years ago because of Spanish sensitivities over Gibraltar.

Five years later while paying a state visit here, he raised the Gibraltar issue in a speech — and shortly afterwards, at the UN, described continuing British rule as an "anachronism".

But the reference was officially accepted as an obligation to Spanish feelings and behind

the scenes he has worked to promote patience and moderation in Madrid. It is he who instigated the first annual Anglo-Spanish seminar (on the lines of the well-established Anglo-German Konigswinter series) in Salamanca next month.

Whitehall is bracing itself for a further mention of the Gibraltar question next week. While, however, it remains the biggest single obstacle to bilateral harmony, it seems unlikely to obtrude too embarrassingly in advance of the next annual bilateral meeting on the subject between the two foreign ministers in December.

A year ago they did, in fact, reach a draft agreement on joint use of Gibraltar airport and the renewal of the Gibraltar ferry to Algeciras. But it has never been activated because the Gibraltar Government opposed it and refused to pass the required legislation.

In one sense this placed the British and Spanish governments on the same side. If nothing else, the show of Gibraltarian intransigence helped to underline the difficulty of the British position on sovereignty.

Co-operation has been growing between the security forces of both countries, particularly in relation to drugs and terrorism. Collaboration which led to the shooting of the three IRA members in Gibraltar last March was only the most graphic example.

Mrs Thatcher has a high regard for the pragmatic socialist Prime Minister, Señor Felipe Gonzalez. The general impression as the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh set foot on Spanish soil for the first time today, is of two countries working together — not falling apart.

How long they will continue to do so, given the lack of progress on Gibraltar, is questionable. At some time in the future, Madrid must grow impatient for results.

The hope in Whitehall must be that in time (and especially after 1992) the significance of the disputed sovereignty will diminish. Next week's state visit may be seen as an important part of that process.

Churchill and Windsor file

From Professor D. Cameron Watt
Sir, Today's Times (October 13) carries an extract from Mr John Costello's book on the late Professor Blunt in which the following statement appears:

Winston Churchill's unprecedented action in 1945 and then again in 1953 to suppress the German Foreign Ministry's file on "German-British relations", including a thick dossier on the Windsor, suggests an extraordinary effort to keep a substantial skeleton nailed up in the Round Tower of Windsor Castle.

From 1951-54 I was a junior member of the British editorial team employed in editing the German Foreign Ministry's documents for publication. This project was international, involving American and French historians. The documents were published in two series — series D, covering the years 1927-41, and series C, covering 1933-35.

No German Foreign Ministry file on German-British relations was suppressed. The documents dealing with the Duke of Windsor were published in volume X of series D. The four documents dealing with his statements as the Germans reported them, when he was king, which I was the first historian to discover, were published in series C.

Churchill objected strongly to the publication of the documents dealing with 1940. The terms of the inter-Allied agreement and the professional integrity of the three senior editors — the Hon Miss Margaret Lambert, for Britain; Professor Bernadotte Schmitt and his successor, Professor Paul Sweet, for the United States; and Professor Maurice Beaumont, for France — convinced him that his objections had no validity save in his own feelings of loyalty to the duke. He contented himself with a statement in the House of Commons critical of the historical judgement of the editors as to the importance of the documents.

If Mr Costello's statement is intended to imply that Mr Churchill succeeded in suppressing the publication and subsequent release to historical research of any German Foreign Ministry documents, then it is untrue.

It is surprising to find anyone claiming to be a professional historian making statements of this nature without checking at least with the British witnesses. Both my British colleagues on the team of historians, the British editor-in-chief, two of my American colleagues, and the American editor-in-chief, Paul Sweet, are alive and available.

Yours sincerely,
D. CAMERON WATT,
The London School of Economics and Political Science,
Houghton Street, WC2,
October 13.

Soviet exchanges

From the Secretary of State for Education and Science
Sir, Mr Summerfield (October 10) suggests I have ignored the plight of the refugees in the Soviet Union. I believe that the signing of the protocol with the Soviet Government about school exchanges (report, October 4) is a major breakthrough. At the moment only two or three schools a year have been able to arrange exchanges. Now we have a firm commitment to exchanges including 50 schools and 2,000 children a year by 1991-92.

I would be very disturbed if the Soviet authorities discriminated against Jewish children when decisions are taken about which children should participate.

During my visit to the Soviet Union I was impressed by the openness and frankness of my hosts. *Glasnost* appears to be a

Long-term lessons from hurricane

From Mr Richard Mabey

Sir, George Hill's reflections on the lessons of the 1987 hurricane (Review, October 8) point up very clearly the complex impact of natural disruptions on fragile human environments, and at what may be in store for us as the "greenhouse effect" brings ever more unstable weather patterns. It is a shame that he barely touches on the more encouraging after-effects — the natural regeneration that is occurring on a vast and inspiring scale in the woodlands of the South.

Indeed, his view that we take a too complacent view of woodlands as "naturally" beneficent is surely almost the opposite of the truth. In Britain at least, trees are commonly perceived as a kind of long-term arable crop, which won't grow unless they are deliberately planted and tended, and which — by the same kind of anthropocentrism — are presumed killed if they are cut down or toppled.

The fact is that trees are the natural, climax-plant cover of most of Earth's dry land, and are quite capable of growing and regenerating by themselves, provided they are given relative freedom from land-grabbers, grazing animals, and — it must be said — over-zealous foresters.

Down in the Wealden woods this autumn there are many millions more young self-sown trees than there were before the hurricane. Parts of Toys Hill near Sevenoaks, perhaps the most comprehensively devastated wood in the country, are already carpeted with birch, whitebeam and beech seedlings. On the South Downs and the Hampshire hangers thickets of ash and maple are pushing their way clean through the wrecked trees — which, incidentally, are mostly not dead, but sprouting vigorously, even when they are lying flat on the ground.

Of course this natural regrowth won't always be commercially useful or to public taste, and doesn't make planting redundant. It is more a question how it affects our attitude. The longer we view tree-planting as the sole environmental panacea, the harder it will be to unlearn the dangerously arrogant fallacy that trees are a human gift to the landscape, rather than vice versa.

Yours etc,
RICHARD MABEY,
10 Cedar Road,
Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire.

From the Chairman and Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens
Sir, Your letter of October 10, 1987, to record our appreciation of the public response to the damage sustained to our collections at Kew and Wakehurst Place.

striking new phenomenon which is welcome, but the process of *perestroika* has only just begun. Mr Gorbachev's programme of reconstruction is at the early dawn of a long day. There is a thirst for knowledge about the West among Soviet young people: that is why the exchange agreement is important. However, such an agreement is not incompatible with keeping up the pressure on the human rights issue.

As you reported on October 12 two of the refusniks about whom I made specific representations to the Soviet authorities, Professor Eduard Nodgarny and his wife Nina, are now to be granted exit visas.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH BAKER,
Department of Education and Science,
Elizabeth House,
York Road, SE1,
October 14.

Family matters

From the Director, Office of Population Censuses and Surveys
Sir, Mr Leslie Jerman's letter (October 11) draws attention to the growing pressure in the public search rooms which maintain records of birth, death and marriage records. We are very much aware of the problem, and are taking what steps we can to remedy it.

A part of the answer must lie in making the best use of the space available in London, which we have recently been able to expand. But it is also important, as Mr Jerman rightly says, to make it possible for people to order and obtain the documents they want without coming to London. To that end, we offer for sale microfilm copies of the indexes which need to be consulted before a particular registration record can be identified and referenced.

The indexes have been filmed by quarter and by event, and cover the period from 1837 up to 1980. Complete or partial sets of the indexes have been purchased by

individuals and by organisations in various parts of the country: these include public libraries and record offices in, for example, Redbridge (close to Mr Jerman's home) as well as Birmingham, Bristol, Portsmouth and Leeds and smaller centres such as Morphet, Preston and Truro.

After the relevant entry has been identified in the index a certified copy of the register entry can be ordered by post, and the charge we make when the index reference is given is less than for postal applications in general.

I should add that the handling of postal requests for certificates is itself a part of our operations which we now conduct outside London. The address to write to is CAS Section, Smedley Hydro, Southport PR8 2HH. Yours faithfully,
G. T. BANKS,
Director, Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, and Registrar General for England and Wales,
St Catherine's House,
10 Kingsway, WC2.

people deserve the same benefits of health care, education etc., as the rest of us.

On the other hand we are trying to devise better methods of detecting the existence of these people before they are born so that we may destroy them. They are not a burden to themselves and need not be any more of a burden to their parents than a "normal" child. Why then are we so keen to be rid of them? Is there no room for anyone a bit different from normal in our technological Reich?

Yours sincerely,
JAMES MITCHELL-INNES,
Christ Church Vicarage,
Sleeper's Hill,
Winchester, Hampshire,
October 9.

Difficulties on Church law

From the Vicar of Hamstead

Sir, A divorced woman has been elected bishop in America (report, September 26) fortuitously at a time when, so far, the Ecclesiastical Committee of Parliament has blocked the General Synod's Measure to allow dispensation for the ordination of the divorced in our own country. The Measure is deemed "not expedient".

There's a world of difference between having a loving and forgiving attitude to church-people, ordained or lay, who become divorced or marry a divorced person, and the perceived stamp of approval that actually ordaining such a one represents. Hard cases make bad law.

The Ecclesiastical Committee must often be perplexed by the Measures sent up to it by Synod. Neither the committee, nor yet the Lords, nor the Commons, may amend such legislation — and it is legislation in the full sense, since it may both amend Acts of Parliament and authorise a form of statutory instrument, as it were, called a canon, not subject to either the annulling or the affirming resolutions of the two Houses.

A short Bill is needed. First, the anomalous position of the canons, now that they at least affect and in effect often bind the laity, needs to be put right. The canons should be subject to annulment by either House. There should be no legislation without representation. It is the Commons and not the Synod that represents parishioners, as distinct from churchgoers.

Second, Parliament should, in either of its Houses, be able to amend ecclesiastical Measures. The Bill would need to allow the Ecclesiastical Committee, if it deemed the Measure expedient at all, either to certify that the Measure might continue to be dealt with, as at present, by one affirmative voting in each House; or to certify that since, in the view of the committee, amendment was either desirable or at least worthy of consideration, then the Measure should be treated as a Bill and go directly to a committee stage in the Ecclesiastical Committee itself, perhaps, with report and third readings, as if the first and second readings had been accomplished.

The Ecclesiastical Committee is at present on the horns of a dilemma: if it cannot amend, should it deem legislation not expedient? My proposal lets it off the hook: an initiative to amend would be in respect and experienced hands. Yours sincerely,
JOHN MASDING,
Hamstead Vicarage,
840 Walsall Road, Birmingham,
West Midlands,
October 6.

All the nines

From Mrs Diana Sykes
Sir, I believe I can add another motive to those discussed in your columns (September 29, October 11) for pre-war pricing practices.

I was brought up in Sunderland in the 1920s and 30s. The farthing coin had not been current in that area for some time. I never saw one until I first visited London in the late 1930s. I remember asking my mother the reason for the "silly" price of 11½d. for some article in a Sunderland shop window.

"That's to encourage you to buy more", she answered (she had, in her youth, assisted in her mother's small shop and was wise in the ways of shopkeepers). "If you buy only one, you have to pay a shilling but, if you buy two you get 1½d change out of two shillings."

Yours faithfully,
DIANA SYKES,
43 Aubrey,
Letchworth, Hertfordshire,
October 11.

Holy writ

From Mrs E. Woods
Sir, On a recent visit to New York I saw the following notice outside a popular church of a well-known denomination: "Visitors welcome; members expected".

I wonder what effect such a notice board outside a Church of England church would have? I remain, yours faithfully,
E. WOODS,
Rotherwood House,
63 Curzon Street,
Long Eaton, Nottingham,
October 10.

Signs of difficulty

From Mr A. E. M. Bloomer
Sir, Mr Fell (October 10) invites examples of "roadside verbiage". I recently saw a notice that said: "Beware adverse camber." At first I thought this was some political slogan — and I was born here!

Yours faithfully,
A. E. M. BLOOMER,
Farnhams, Aveley Lane,
Farnham, Surrey,
October 10.

From Mr Brian Bullen
Sir, Mr Fell reminds me of the perplexity of foreigners at "Dual carriage ahead" and "Bridle path." But the Frenchman who sees "Soft verges" may well be bemused.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN BULLEN,
Chapel Cottage, Brynnydd,
Clyro, Hereford,
October 11.

Letters to the Editor may be sent to a fax number — (01) 782 5046. They should contain a daytime telephone number.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

October 14: The Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec and the Marquis de Lamontagne had the honour of being received by the Queen.

The Governor-General of the Solomon Islands (Sir George Lepping) had the honour of being received by the Queen when Her Majesty conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood and invested him with the Insignia of Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George.

Lady Lepping had the honour of being received by the Queen Field Marshal Sir Nigel Bagnall had the honour of being received by the Queen upon relinquishing his appointment as Chief of the General Staff, when Her Majesty presented him with his Field Marshal's Baton.

KENSINGTON PALACE
October 14: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, was present this evening at a Concert given by the Massed

Bands of the Royal Air Force which was held at the Royal Albert Hall in aid of the RAF Benevolent Fund.

Mrs Jane Stevens was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE

ST JAMES'S PALACE
October 14: The Duchess of Kent, as Patron of the Norfolk and Norwich Triennial Festival, this afternoon visited the Dutch and Flemish paintings Exhibition at the Castle Museum and later attended a concert at St Andrew's Hall, Norwich, Norfolk.

Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Mrs David Napier.

The Duchess of York celebrates her birthday today.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir John Elliott will be held on Thursday, November 10, at noon at St Bride's Church, Fleet Street, London, EC4.

Mr Francis Eels regrets that because of illness he was unable to attend the memorial service for Mr K.G.J.C. Knowles.

Lincoln's Inn

The following have been elected as officers for 1989:

Treasurer: Lord Justice Kerr; Master of the Library: Lord Justice Parker; Dean of the Chapel: Mr Justice Goff; Clerk: Mr Justice Goff; Keeper of the Black Book: Mr Michael Corkery, QC; Master of the Walks: Lord Oliver of Aylmerton.

Royal rider

The Princess Royal left Heathrow Airport, London yesterday for a two-day private visit to the United States. Carrying a pair of riding boots, she flew to New York by Concorde and travelled on to Washington.

Distillers' Company

The following have been installed officers of the Distillers' Company for the ensuing year: Master, Mr Norman Burroughs; Upper Warden, Mr Alan Lamboll; Middle Warden, Mr Michael Broadbent; Renter Warden, Mr James Macdonald-Buchanan.

Reception

HM Government
Mr Michael Forsyth, Minister for Education at the Scottish Office, was host last night at a reception held in Stirling Castle for the 16+ Action Plan.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.M.J. Royden and Miss L.M. Sturton
The engagement is announced between John, elder son of Sir Christopher Royden, Bt, and Lady Royden, of Abington, Gloucestershire, and Lucilla, daughter of Mr John Ralph Sturton, of Daglingworth, Gloucestershire, and Mrs Virginia Sturton, of London, W8.

M.S. Brault and Miss V.P. Mitchell
The engagement is announced between Stephen, second son of M and Mrs V.P. Brault, of Paris, France, and Victoria, only daughter of Mr and Mrs F.P. Mitchell, of Vale, Glamorgan.

Mr A.J. Burford and Miss J.L. Bailey
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs R. Burford, and Tamsin, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.R. Bailey. The marriage will take place in Nottingham.

Mr W.R.B. Clark and Miss H.M. Scott
The engagement is announced between William, son of Mr and Mrs S.D. Clark, of Curry Rivel, Somerset, and Hilary, only daughter of Mrs R.M. Scott, of Clevedon, Avon, and the late Mr J.B. Scott, of Belfast.

Mr M.D. Cook and Miss C.A.E.S. Hilditch
The engagement is announced between Michael David, son of Mr and Mrs David Cook, and Caroline Anne Elizabeth, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Hilditch, both of Rugby, Warwickshire.

Commander A.N. Du Port, RN and Miss K.B. Collinson
The engagement is announced between Antony Neil, son of the late Mr A.N. Du Port and of Mrs N.J. Du Port, of Lymington, Hampshire, and Katharine Blanche, elder daughter of Mr D.D. Wade, of Calgary, Canada, and of Mrs P.L. Wade, of Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

Mr M.C. Elkington and Miss C.L. Campbell
The engagement is announced between Mr and Mrs Peter Elkington, of Amersham, Buckinghamshire, and Claire Louise, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Campbell, of Lewes, Sussex.

Dr C.A.H. Hands and Dr P.A. Robertson
The engagement is announced between Christopher, only son of Dr and Mrs A.H. Hands, of Southampton, Lancashire, and Pauline, elder daughter of the late Mr James Andrew and of Mrs A. Andrew, of Forest Row, Sussex.

Mr J. Tippler and Miss L. Drysdale
The marriage took place on September 26, of Mr John Tippler, son of Mr and Mrs John Tippler, of Fulbrook, Oxfordshire, and Miss Laura Drysdale, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Andrew Drysdale, of Ferriers Grange, Hookwood, Surrey.

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The bishops of the Church of England returned from the Lambeth Conference this summer obviously moved by the spirit of brotherhood and unity they had experienced there. But the Church of England at large did not participate in that experience, and has now to contend with the rough bits without the smooth.

And so there is an emerging feeling that the church seems to be heading for the worst of all possible worlds, with stalemate on every front. Various parts of the church have various ambitions for its future, not all of them incompatible, but its looks increasingly likely that there will be no joy for any of them and they give the impression they know it.

The General Synod machinery is beginning its long grapple with the ordination of women, and the measure for paying off priests who would not be able to live with it. The three years of bitter argument that this involves can only weaken morale on all sides, though it could still be redeemed if the church then received a tonic from the ordination of the first woman priest. But the smart money says the measure will not receive the two thirds majority it would require at its final stage, which will depress a large part of the church without any off-setting reinvigoration among the rest.

The key factor will be the 1990 elections for a new General Synod. Previous synods which have debated some aspect or other have divided roughly 60-40, and surveys of opinion in the church suggest that that is a fair reflection of opinion. Attempts were made to make this a major issue at the 1985 election, and the synod which emerged was if anything more conservative.

Supporters of women priests have a formidable task ahead of them to gain the extra 40 votes they need; and by then the church at large will be very conscious of the possible damage, much less aware of the possible benefits.

But if the proportion of the synod wanting women priests remained above half but below two thirds, the issue would be likely to return to the agenda

repeatedly, without any prospect of a final resolution one way or the other, again the worst of all possible worlds.

Meanwhile the American, and probably the Canadian and New Zealand Anglican churches, are unstoppably heading towards the consecration of women bishops, which will seriously jeopardise the unity of the Anglican Communion, and move it, as the Bishop of Chichester, Dr Eric Kemp, predicted recently, towards being a mere federation of separate churches.

For the future of Anglicanism the worst combination of these two circumstances, which is also the one most likely, would be a more or less permanent blockage on woman priests in the Church of England, while there were women bishops in three or four Anglican provinces abroad.

Even maintaining the internal unity of the Church of England itself would be difficult, particularly if any English bishop is bold enough to take part in the consecration of a woman bishop overseas. It has been mentioned as a possibility, and it would in fact be quite difficult for someone like the Bishop of Bristol, the Right Rev Barry Rogerson, to refuse such an invitation. In such an event the church will be lucky if the Bishop of London, Dr Graham Leonard, was content merely to declare himself out of communion with Bristol, and carry on as before.

One possible bonus the Church of England could hope for if it decided not to ordain women itself would be an improvement in relations with the Roman Catholic Church, which is desirable for all sorts of practical reasons as the two churches between them account for the greater part of English Christianity. But the Catholic Church conducts its bilateral relations at an international level, and deals not with the Church of England as such but with the Anglican Communion. The damage done to that prospect by women bishops elsewhere would not be adequately compensated by the Church of England's refusal to ordain women: it is again the worst possible combination.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev David Fox, Tutor and Lecturer, College of the Resurrection, Victoria, diocese of Adelaide, same diocese.
The Rev David Gilling, Tutor, Victoria, diocese of Adelaide, same diocese.
The Rev John Chapman, diocese of Adelaide, same diocese.
The Rev John Chapman, diocese of Adelaide, same diocese.
The Rev John Chapman, diocese of Adelaide, same diocese.
The Rev John Chapman, diocese of Adelaide, same diocese.
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The Rev John Chapman, diocese of Adelaide, same diocese.
The Rev John Chapman, diocese of Adelaide, same diocese.
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Admiral Sir William Staveley (above) is to be a member of the Board of Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust.

Luncheons

German Chamber of Industry and Commerce
Herr Günter Z. Steffens, Chairman of the German Chamber of Industry and Commerce in the United Kingdom, presided at a luncheon held yesterday at the Inn on the Park Hotel. The guest of honour and speaker was David A.G. Simon, Sir Bryan Nicholson, Chairman and Chief Executive of The Post Office, and Mr A.K. Edwards, Deputy Director-General of the CBI, were among the other guests.

Religious Press Group
Sir Signmund Stenberg, Chairman of the Religious Press Group, held a luncheon at Hill House, WC1, for representatives of the religious press and media. Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, was the guest speaker. Father Bernard Dupuy, of Paris, also spoke.

Service dinners
19th Indian (Dagger) Division
Major M. G. Lacey was the guest of honour at the annual officers' reunion dinner of the 19th Indian (Dagger) Division held last night at the Oriental Club, Brigadier B.T.V. Cowey presided.

City Volunteer Officers Club
Major M. G. Lacey, President of the City Volunteer Officers Club, presided at the annual dinner held last night at the Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea.

Dinners
Northamptonshire Lieutenantcy
Mr J.L. Lowther, Lord Lieutenant for Northamptonshire, Sir Hereward Wake, Vice-Lord Lieutenant, and Deputy Lieutenants of the County dinner at Stanfield Hall, Leicestershire, last night by invitation of Lieutenant-Colonel E.H.L. Aubrey-Fletcher and Lady Braye.

London Head Teachers Association
Mr Graham Hall, President of the London Head Teachers Association, presided at dinner held last night at the House of Commons, by courtesy of Mr Harry Greenwood, MP, to mark the centenary of the association. Sir Peter Newsum, Mr John Wootton, President of the National Association of Head Teachers, and Mr James Rudden also spoke.

Chartered Institute of Loss Adjusters
The Chartered Institute of Loss Adjusters (CILA) held its annual dinner last night at the London Hilton Hotel on Park Lane. Mr Leslie Parker, president of the institute, presided, and the principal guests were Judge Neil Denison, QC, and Mr James Coutmore.

Gordonstoun Association
Sir Toby and Lady Coghill were the guests of honour at the annual dinner of the Gordonstoun Association which was held at the Cafe Royal on Friday, October 14. Mr Graham Neil, chairman, presided.

Anniversaries

Today
BIRTHS: Virgil, Andes, near Macclesfield, 1708; Akbar I, the Great, Mughal emperor of India 1556-1605; Umarov, Sindh, India, 1542; Evangelista Torricelli, designer of the barometer, Faenza, Italy, 1608; Francis Ramsey, poet, Crawford, Strathclyde, 1686; Mikhail Lermontov, dramatist and poet, Moscow, 1814; Friedrich Nietzsche, philosopher, Naumburg, 1844; John L. Sullivan, champion heavyweight boxer, Roxbury, Massachusetts, 1858; Sir Pelham (P.G.) Wodehouse, Guildford, Surrey, 1881.
DEATHS: Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac, soldier, founder of the city of Detroit, 1705; Tadeusz Kosciuszko, Polish patriot, Solowka, Switzerland, 1817; Raymond Poincaré, president of France 1913-20, Paris, 1934; Marie Tardieu, actress, Paris, 1934; Pierre Laval, head of the Vichy government of France 1942-44, executed, Paris, 1945; Herman Goering, German politician, 1897-1946; Leonid Brezhnev replaced Nikita Khrushchev as General Secretary of the Communist Party in Russia, 1964.
Tomorrow
BIRTHS: Albrecht Von Haller, botanist, anatomist and poet, 1708; Robert Stephenson, civil engineer, Willington Quay, Northumberland, 1803; Arnold Böcklin, painter, Basel, 1827; Oscar Wilde, Dublin, 1854; Sir Austen Chamberlain, statesman, Nobel Peace laureate 1925, Birmingham, 1863; David Ben-Gurion, first prime minister of Israel 1948-53, 1953-63; Piontek, Poland, 1886; Eugene O'Neill, New York, 1888; Michael Collins, Irish patriot, Clonakilly, Co. Cork, 1890.
DEATHS: Luca Signorelli, painter, Cortona, Italy, 1523; Hugh Latimer and Nicholas Ridley, bishops, Protestants, reformers, burnt at the stake, Oxford, 1555; Robert Ferguson, poet, Edinburgh, 1774; Marie Antoinette, Queen of France, executed, Paris, 1793; John Hunter, anatomist and surgeon, London, 1793; Liqiaut Ali Khan, first prime minister of Pakistan 1947-51, assassinated, Rawalpindi, West Punjab, 1951; George Marshall, general, for-mulated Marshall Aid, Nobel Peace laureate 1953, Washington, 1959.
The House of Commons was burned down, 1834. The first aeroplane flight in England by Samuel Cody at Farnborough, 1908. The German war criminals, Joachim von Ribbentrop and Arthur von Seyss-Inquart were hanged at Nuremberg, 1946.

Birthdays

TODAY: Lord Baden-Powell, 52; Mr Kulbir Bhaura, hockey player, 33; Sir George Bishop, former chairman, Booker McConnell, 75; Mr H.M. Collins, architectural historian, 69; Professor J.K. Galbraith, economist, 80; the Very Rev E.W. Heaton, Dean of Christ Church, Oxford, 68; Mr Andrew Holmes, cartoonist, 29; Sir John Martin, civil servant, 84; Dame Anne Mueller, civil servant, 58; Mr Mario Puzo, author, 68; Professor C.W. Rees, organic chemist, 61; Mr George Sava, author, 61; Baroness Serota, 69; Lieutenant-General Sir William Stratton, 85; Mr Roscoe Tanner, tennis player, 36; Mr Justice Vinelott, 65; General Sir Richard Ward, 71.
TOMORROW: Lord Adrian, 61; Mr F. Bowles, 52; Mr Max Bygraves, entertainer, 60; Mr Gunter Grass, writer, 61; Dr W.W. Grove, former Master, Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, 87; Mr Terry Griffiths, snooker player, 41; Miss Angela Lansbury, actress, 63; Lord MacDonald of Gwaenysgor, 73; Lord Maclehoose of Beoch, 71; the Most Rev Thomas Morris, Archbishop of Cardiff, 70; and Emily, 74; Miss Emma Nicholson, MP, 47; Sir John Wainwright, civil servant, 80.

Tomorrow's royal engagements
The Princess of Wales, as President of the Royal Academy of Music, will attend a concert given by the students at St John's Smith Square at 7.30.
Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, as President of the Women's Royal Voluntary Service (East Midlands Region), will attend a service in Coventry Cathedral to mark its golden jubilee at 2.35.

St Paul's Schools' Chamber Orchestra
Old Penlines and Old Paulines and friends of both schools are invited to apply for tickets for a concert to be given at St John's, Smith Square, on Sunday, November 6, at 7.30pm. The concert will be directed from the keyboard by Michael Roll. Further details and tickets are available from both schools, or from the box office at St John's.

Duke's funeral
The funeral of the 10th Duke of Northumberland, who died on Tuesday, was held yesterday at All Saints Church, Isleworth, where his London home, Spyn House, is situated.

Polytechnic news
Napier Polytechnic has announced the appointment of its first professors. They are: Professor C. F. A. Bryce (biological sciences), Professor G. H. W. Milburn (applied chemistry), Professor R. S. Renton (design), and Professor A. R. Young (mechanical and industrial engineering).

City appointments
Emeritus professorship: Professor Ray Skidmore; professorship: Dr Paul Willner (psychology); fellowships: Mr Peter Durrant and Mr Ron Martin.

Sheffield
Audrey Ross, principal lecturer in food and hospitality services, has been elected President of the UK Home Economics Federation from January 1.

OBITUARIES

FELIX WANKEL Rotary engines for cars and motorcycles



The inventor with the machine

He had to wait some 10 years, however, before being able to get the engine into production for Mazda cars in Japan.

Wankel was a research engineer, a brilliant mathematician with a mechanical bent, but he never received a university education. Born in Lahti, in the Black Forest, Wankel's father was a forest ranger.

Wankel never learned to drive a car. "I was always too dreamy, and my eyesight was too poor for a driver's licence," he once confessed. But he worked away doggedly with car engines when he could find the time, finally accumulating enough money selling books to set up the shop where he was to develop his engine. By 1926, Wankel was able to concentrate on engineering full-time.

Wankel applied for patents on his rotary concept in 1933, not long after Hitler took power. He had been an early follower of Hitler but had left the Nazi party in 1932.

In 1936, the German Air Ministry heard about Wankel's work and invited him to continue his research in a government aviation institute. Always at odds with the authorities, he refused, but finally went to work for the German government when Goering agreed to have a separate institute, the Wankel Test Institute, set up for him.

There Wankel designed a system for cooling the pistons of an aircraft engine, and, in conjunction with Mercedes-Benz, developed a rotary valve for aircraft engines.

At the end of the Second World War, Wankel was imprisoned by the French and his workshop was dismantled as part of the Allied de-industrialization plans for defeated Germany.

After release, Wankel settled in London, where he continued the experiments that culminated in the successful engine.

He never joined NSU, but was a member of a separate corporation known as Wankel-NSU, which held the patents and arranged licenses for production.

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Wankel applied for patents on his rotary concept in 1933, not long after Hitler took power. He had been an early follower of Hitler but had left the Nazi party in 1932.

In 1936, the German Air Ministry heard about Wankel's work and invited him to continue his research in a government aviation institute. Always at odds with the authorities, he refused, but finally went to work for the German government when Goering agreed to have a separate institute, the Wankel Test Institute, set up for him.

There Wankel designed a system for cooling the pistons of an aircraft engine, and, in conjunction with Mercedes-Benz, developed a rotary valve for aircraft engines.

At the end of the Second World War, Wankel was imprisoned by the French and his workshop was dismantled as part of the Allied de-industrialization plans for defeated Germany.

After release, Wankel settled in London, where he continued the experiments that culminated in the successful engine.

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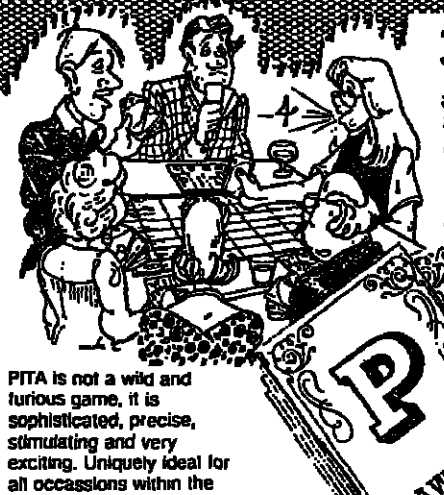
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SHOPPING

Red light for show place

The Design Council shop is going to close; Deyan Sudjic discovers that selling style has its down side

The Design Council's biggest problem is that it began life by bringing the gospel of good taste to the masses, and it is now having to find a new role as an instrument of economic policy. Born in the brave new welfare state of the 1940s, it has had a bumpy time accommodating itself to the unsentimental 1980s.

That is why the council's new director, Ivor Owen, has found himself faced with a series of tough decisions in the last few months. He has had to deal with a cash crisis; but more serious has been the steady decline of the council's prestige. Owen scrapped the Design Selection scheme both to save money, and because its formerly celebrated black and white triangle had become more of an embarrassment than an asset. Now Owen has decided to shut down the council's Haymarket shop, which has just emerged from a six-figure refurbishment by David Davies, the designer behind many of Next's most successful shops.

The trouble was that for the vast majority of visitors to the Design Centre in the Haymarket, the shop is the Design Council. But the shop is despised by designers as being swamped by knock-knacks, was failing to make profits, was giving off the wrong message. "I'd felt it distorted our image, and confused our audience," Owen says. "We were caught between a niche market like a National Trust shop, and the high street. It is impossible to be taken seriously talking about design policy, if you end up selling £150 lizard-skin Filofaxes." It was a dilemma which highlights the plight of the council as a whole.

The shop opened in the early 1970s in the hope that selling well-designed products in a little enclave of good taste in the Haymarket would in some mysterious way persuade consumers everywhere to demand better-designed products in their own high streets.

It drew snorts of derision from some design-conscious retailers, and to add to its difficulties, the shop was not just meant to improve the minds of its customers, and to



Looking good, selling little: the Haymarket shop front make a profit for the council, but it also had to be stocked exclusively with British products.

The sad fact is that there simply weren't many that were good enough.

Over the years, the shop has made it ever more glaringly apparent that about the only things which Britain does still make in the consumer goods market are teddybears, pot pourri jars and Filofaxes.

Walking around the shop this week, you will find a music stand that looks like a machine gun; a little cutlery; some plastic brief cases; and a clock or two. Hardly ammunition that is going to eliminate the balance of payments deficit in manufactured goods

Owen has taken the decision to shut the shop and the council's cafe at the same time. He fell on the Danish pastries and the knock-knacks, seeing them as ideological interlopers in the temple of good design. "Ideologically and intellectually, the whole idea of a shop was flawed," he says. In their place will come a still-to-be-defined centre for showing the work of young designers.

"I want there to be room to show everything, from the schools to designers who might have been out of college for a couple of years. I want it to be a place that industrialists and potential students, too, can come to see new ideas and new talents. I'd like to go down to six-year-olds."

The details of selection and who will do the selecting, what the criteria will be and what will go on show when the shop finally shuts down next January, are still to be finalized.

Owen and Simon Hornby, the council's chairman, are in the middle of a particularly painful bit of reassessment about what it is that the council can do, and how it should set about doing it.

In conversation, Owen produces a matt black electric pencil sharpener that happens to have been designed in Britain, but which is manufactured in Japan. "Now, what do you think the Japanese are prepared to pay for one of these?" He puts you out of your misery quickly. "£80. A British firm just wouldn't believe that." Owen, who resigned from his position on the board of a company because his attempts to start making the kind of electrical appliances that would take on the Japanese and the Germans came to nothing, feels the point strongly. Clearly what he wants the council to do in future is to persuade the remains of the British manufacturing industry that there are other ways of doing things.

"We are here to be a catalyst," he concludes. And shops, it seems, do not fall into that category.

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WEDNESDAY
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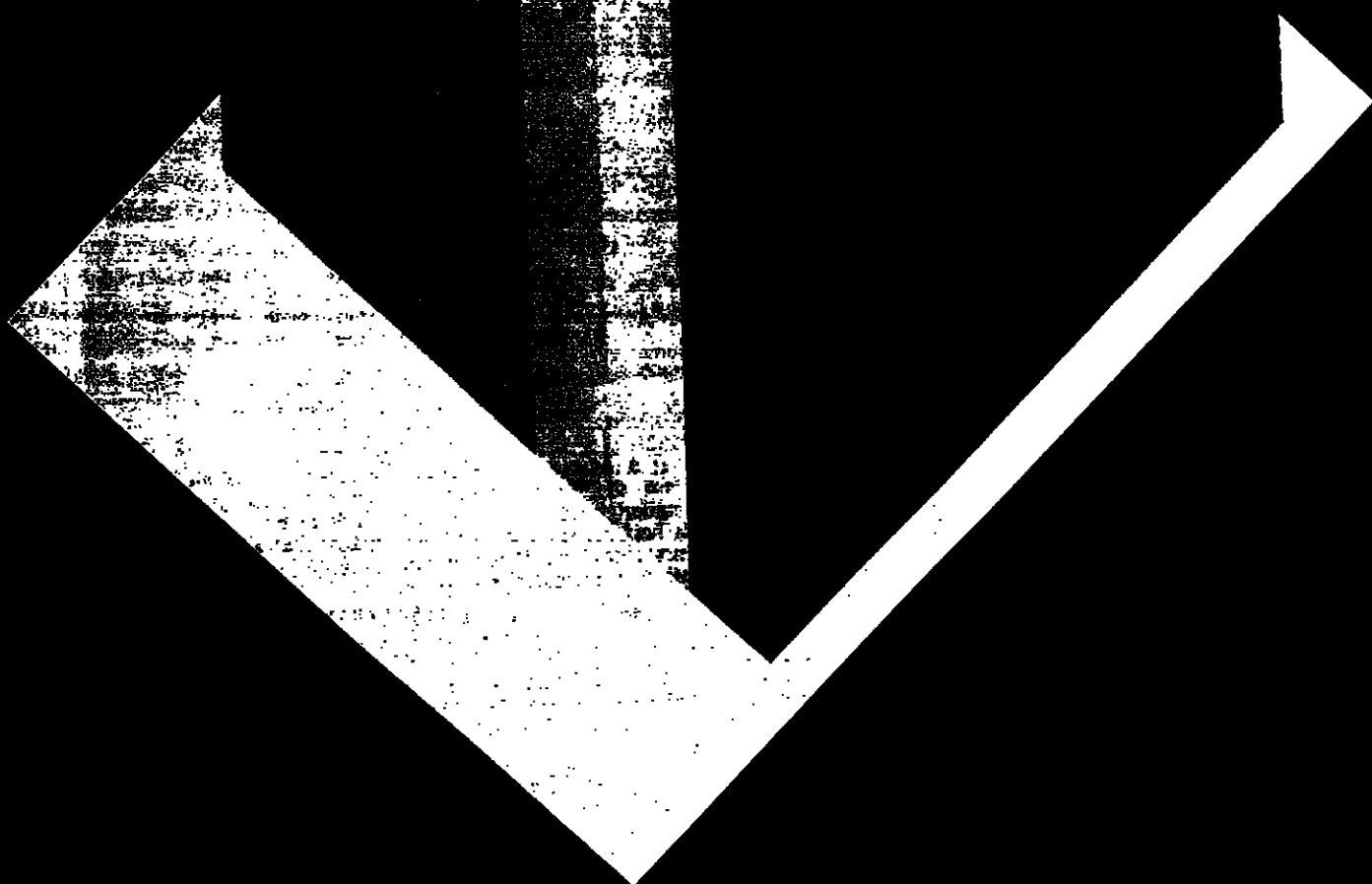
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By Christopher Thomas and Charles Bremner

Blair tipped for Labour front bench

Others on the Tribuneite left who are held to have good chances of improving their position this year are Mr. Harriet Harman, the health spokesman, and Mr. Clive Soley, the housing spokesman.

Heinemann to safeguard Spycatcher

To take action over the imported copies, however, the Government "would have to go against Heinemann Australia and that is a jurisdiction where they have lost and lost and lost!"

Dick Seaman, driving a Mercedes, salvaged third place for the British through *The Times* said of our cars: "The British cars, being only half the size of their Continental rivals, are classed in sports and acceleration, but Arthur Dobson drove magnificently to finish sixth on his ERA." Fifty years ago drivers were deemed to sit on their machines rather than lying down in them as they do today.

Dobson's ERA, which was driven by the band-leader Billy Cotton in 1938, will be among six famous cars racing: Daimlergton tomorrow, together with several Maserati 250Fs from the 1950s.

A raving ovation for 'our' speech

note "that's enough about Education - M.T." would appear fairly early in her speech-writers' drafts. And jokes? "Oh yes, as

Concise crossword, page 58

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Denmark Kr	2.19	2.10
Finland Mark	7.94	7.44
France Sfr	11.25	10.65
Germany Dm	3.29	3.11
Greece Dr	2.26	2.26
Great Brit S	14.40	13.40
Italy Lira	1,235	1,170
Japan Yen	237.5	237.5
Netherlands Gld	2.72	2.52
Norway Kr	22.1	21.5
Portugal Esc	127.0	127.0
Spain Ptas	16.60	15.60
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SATURDAY OCTOBER 15 1988

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

Oil output boosted by Opec

Crude oil output of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) is rising to 21.5 million barrels per day, after 20.9 million barrels last month, Opec's oil information service, reported yesterday.

The Saudi Arabian production was possibly as high as 5.7 million barrels daily, up 500,000, the report said.

The Opec quota system, if adhered to, would give a maximum monthly output of about 17.75 million barrels per day.

Kelt launches surprise takeover bid for Carless



Perrodo: Intending to sell downstream group assets

By Carol Ferguson

In a dramatic and unexpected move yesterday morning, Kelt Energy, the French entrepreneur M. Hubert Perrodo's oil and gas vehicle, launched a formal takeover bid for the UK independent, Carless, Capel and Leonard.

The offer was made as Carless shareholders were gathering in the Connaught Rooms in Holborn, London, for an extraordinary general meeting to approve Carless's all-share offer for Ryan International, the coal company.

In the light of the offer, which is conditional on the Carless shareholders rejecting the Ryan acquisition, the EGM was adjourned until October 28.

Kelt, which has a market

capitalization of £160 million, is offering £4 in cash and one Kelt convertible preference share for every four Carless shares held, valuing Carless at £212 million, or 118p a share. There is a cash alternative of 115p a share. Carless shares at one point yesterday rose to 116½p, up 7½p.

Yesterday's adjourned EGM is the latest twist in a bizarre series of events which began with Carless's 17-for-9 share offer for Ryan, initially, London Merchant Securities, Carless's biggest shareholder, with two representatives on the Carless board, supported the deal.

However, two weeks after the announcement, it became clear that LMS support was crumbling away. Mr John Leonard, the Carless

chairman, said this had caused press speculation and ultimately the bid from Kelt. LMS first withdrew its support for the Ryan deal and then opposed it.

"LMS's self-serving actions are contrary to the interest of the company, of its employees and its shareholders," Mr Leonard said. "Kelt is not of a sufficient quality and substance, and the assets would be better managed by the existing management team than by Kelt, who have indicated that they will break up the company."

Mr Perrodo said that he was not worried that the Ryan deal would be approved because "common sense shows that it is not a very good deal for Carless shareholders." He said that he had decided to bid before the

EGM to let the Carless shareholders know where they stood.

LMS has given a "non-binding" undertaking that it intends to accept Kelt's offer for its 27.2 per cent shareholding. The company said yesterday that it regarded the adjournment of the EGM as being in the best interests of all the Carless shareholders.

"But LMS will continue to oppose the merger of Carless and Ryan, believing that it lacks commercial and financial merit," the company said. It said that it had received continuing support for this view from "a substantial number" of Carless shareholders, both institutional and private.

Mr Ian Clubb, Carless's managing director, said: "They are not going

to get Carless at 115p. My aim is to keep the company independent, and the vast majority of our shareholders by number support us."

He said that the EGM had been adjourned to give time to the shareholders to consider the offer which had been delivered by hand yesterday morning. "We are confident we can see off the Kelt bid by showing shareholders that Carless is worth a lot more than 115p," he said.

Mr Perrodo said that he had raised £220 million from the American Express bank for the purchase of Carless. He said that he would sell the downstream assets, and possibly some of the combined group's oil assets, "to produce a balanced upstream operation."

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Nikkei Average	2593.00 (+31.24)
Amsterdam Gen	279.8 (+1.5)
Sydney: AO	1550.8 (+10.7)
Frankfurt	1602.2 (+17.1)
Commerzbank	530.4 (+19.8)
General	381.1 (+5.3)
Paris: CAC	496.1 (+4.3)
Zurich: SIK Gen	496.1 (+4.3)
London:	
FT-A All-Share	174.1 (+0.5)
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RMC Group	487½p (+10p)
Allied Lyons	487½p (+10p)
Hunting Assoc	385p (+20p)
FAA Inv	161p (+11p)

FALLS

Sandell Perkins	286½p (-12p)
Jones Stroud	240p (-20p)
SA Breweries	280p (-10p)
Young A	500p (-10p)
Young A	700p (-15p)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	12%
3-month interbank	12-11½%
3-month eligible bills	11-11½%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	10%
Federal Funds 9%	
3-month Treasury Bill	7.33-7.32%
30-year bonds	102-102½%

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: \$1.7550	\$: £0.5698
£: DM3.1809	DM: £0.3128
£: Sfr2.0869	Sfr: £0.4791
£: FF10.8766	FF: £0.1890
£: Yen223.41	Yen: £0.1271
£: Indec76.3	Indec: £0.0132
ECU 10.62532	SDR 10.759480

GOLD

London Gold:	AM \$408.50-AM \$407.80
close \$408.75-409.25	(2233.00-2233.50)
New York:	Comex \$408.90-409.40

NORTH SEA OIL

Brant (Nov 1) pm \$12.85bbl (\$12.58)
Demotes latest trading price

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● Calls charged at 5p for 8 seconds peak and 12 seconds off peak inc. VAT.

Inflation rises to three-year high at 5.9%

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Britain's inflation rate is showing a strong underlying increase, independent of the rise in mortgage rates, Department of Employment figures show.

The rate of inflation rose to 5.9 per cent in the 12 months to September, up from 5.7 per cent in August, to reach its highest since September, 1985. The September rate is used for the annual uprating of pensions and other social security benefits. If all benefits are uprated in line with inflation, it will cost an extra £575 million above the public expenditure plans.

The index of retail prices rose to 108.4 (January 1987=100) last month, an increase of 0.5 per cent on the 107.9 level recorded in August. Only a tiny part of the increase was due to the residual effects of the first round of higher mortgage rates - which mainly came in on August 1.

Instead, price rises across a wide range of goods, including clothing and footwear, non-seasonal food, household goods, postage stamps, beer and leisure services, pushed the index higher. The figures

were unaffected by the postal strike.

The rise in the inflation rate was seen as worrying in the City, although hints from the Chancellor about the figures muted their market impact. "These figures were a bit worrying," said Mr Keith Skeoch, chief economist at James Capel, the broker. "We are in the middle of a pick-up in the underlying inflation rate."

Inflation is set to show a further rise to just under 6.5 per cent when the October figures are published in a month's time. The rate is expected to peak at 7 per cent in the first few months of next year, but analysts said the Chancellor's "temporary blip" in inflation could become a longer-term affair.

Mr Bill Martin, chief economist at Phillips & Drew, stressed the dangers of a wage-price spiral and said the core inflation rate had increased to 6 per cent. Mr Kevin Gardiner, economist at Warburg Securities, said inflation should return to an underlying rate of 4.5 per cent, but only if recent action to slow demand is successful.

Mr Norman Fowler, the

Secretary of State for Employment, pointed to the 3.9 per cent increase in the tax-and-price index over the past 12 months (the retail price index, adjusted to take account of reductions in income tax).

"This needs to be understood and reflected in wage negotiations," he said. "There is no justification in these figures for excessive pay settlements."

Of the 0.5 per cent rise in the retail price index last month, less than 0.05 per cent was due to higher mortgage rates. Clothing and footwear accounted for 0.1 per cent of the rise.

The second round of mortgage rate increases, which mainly took effect on October 1, pushed up rates by an average of 1.25 points, and will add about 0.5 per cent to the retail price index for October. Other increases include those for some foods, possibly reflecting effects of the North American drought.

The last sharp rise in inflation was in 1985, when it reached 7 per cent. It came down the following year, partly as a result of lower mortgage rates but mainly due to a sharp fall in oil prices.

Output still rising sharply

By Our Economics Correspondent

Manufacturing output has continued to climb sharply, according to new official figures. The trend growth for manufacturing has been revised up to 7 per cent, as strong as at any stage during the present recovery.

The index of manufacturing output rose by 1.3 per cent in August. In the latest three months, output was up by 2.3 per cent on the previous three months and 6.9 per cent on a year earlier.

Officials cautioned against

interpreting the latest figures as an acceleration in growth. There was evidence this year that more firms worked through their normal bottlenecks, creating difficulties for seasonally adjusting the data.

Even so, the strong growth in output largely compensated for the effects of the acceleration in earnings growth. The Employment Department said unit wage and salary costs in manufacturing in August were 1 per cent up on a year earlier, after 0.5 per cent in

July. However, the three-month moving average for the growth in unit wage costs fell from 1.1 to 0.7 per cent.

The manufacturing boom has been most pronounced in electrical and instrument engineering, including computers, where output rose 10.1 per cent in the latest three months and was 17.2 per cent up on a year earlier.

The overall industrial output figures were again held down by a depressed energy sector.

Fraser charges 'unlikely'

By Our City Staff

The Serious Fraud Office is thought to have reached a preliminary view that the 750-page Department of Trade and Industry report on the takeover of House of Fraser will not give rise to any criminal charges.

However, the SFO is believed to consider that evidence disclosed in the report could perhaps give rise to civil actions in the High Court

against some of the parties involved in the 1985 takeover of House of Fraser by the Fayed brothers.

If so, these would be private actions to which the DTI would not voluntarily be a party.

Pressure on Lord Young, the Trade Secretary, to publish the Fraser report is likely to increase in view of the SFO. Up to now the DTI has said that the report's publica-

tion would be delayed because of the SFO involvement.

Lorhro, the international group headed by Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland and which was bitterly disappointed at the way the Fayed took over House of Fraser, has already taken steps in the High Court towards challenging the decision to delay publication.

The prospect of civil litigation could mean that the House of Fraser saga will continue for years.

Now Minorco bends the ear of the President

Briefing on Reagan's breakfast tray

By Colin Campbell

When Mrs Nancy Reagan takes the breakfast tray up to her husband this morning, laden with the usual pot of coffee, breakfast rolls, newspapers and state papers, she will be handing President Reagan a lengthy letter - all 55 pages of it. It is from Minorco, now bidding £2.9 billion for Consolidated Gold Fields, and asks the President not to interfere in its bid.

Minorco's submission, in reply to ConsGold's own letter to Mr Reagan asking him to stop Minorco, tells Mr President that a successful acquisition could not conceivably present a threat to America's national security, and that the earlier letter from ConsGold is nothing more than a desperate attempt to use - and, in the process, abuse - US law.

Minorco's other message is that, while it has been suggested - and not at all

subtly - that Minorco, its South African connections, Anglo American, and Mr Harry Oppenheimer are "sinister forces", it is not Anglo American or Mr Oppenheimer who are the bad boys. In fact, Minorco says, it is the labour policies of Gold Fields of South Africa, a ConsGold associate, that are "reactionary".

The letter adds that ConsGold has sought to sully the reputation of Harry Oppenheimer and that it is wrong to smear Minorco with the "taint of apartheid and the repressive policies of the present South African government."

"Gold Fields South Africa pays its black workers, significantly below the rates paid by Anglo American in most job categories," the letter says.

Minorco believes the act under which ConsGold urged President Reagan to block the bid was not intended, and should not be used, to impede a British takeover. "If the Administration takes the action requested, it will surely invite targets of hostile takeovers all over the world to routinely petition the US government to intervene."

Minorco already intends to sell ConsGold's 49 per cent in the American mining group Newmont and, in any case, Newmont will remain "a good corporate citizen of the US."

The President is told that ConsGold's argument - that a Minorco takeover will jeopardize US access to strategic metals - rests on several flawed assumptions.

The suggestion that Minorco would cut off US access to strategic metals, or otherwise act in ways inimical to the interests of the United States, is said to be "particularly offensive."

Platinum shortfall forecast

Increasing demand for platinum to be used in catalytic converters for cars, plus Japanese passion for platinum jewellery, could lead to a world shortfall of more than a million ounces by 1993, Mr Alan Austin, general manager of Johnson Matthey precious metals, has claimed.

He told the European Precious Metals Conference in Luxembourg yesterday that demand projections suggested cumulative demand from the end of this year until 1993 would total 18.2 million ounces. Last year, demand was 3.32 million ounces.

Given the likely rate of increase in South African production, supply is expected to reach only 17.4 million ounces in the period.

But the figures took no account of the estimated 450,000 ounce deficit this year, bringing the shortfall to 1.25 million ounces by 1993.



Watching for stake-builders: John Parry yesterday

to 700p yesterday, while the "A" shares fell by 15p to 658p.

Mr Parry said the company had been watching its share register but was unaware of any significant stake-building. Several long-term institutional investors have, however, recently increased their holdings.

During the first half, Hammerson opened Phase 2 of its Square One shopping centre in Toronto, and retail and office developments on

the Continent in Marseilles, Bremen and Essen. The company says all these are almost fully let and trading well.

These will contribute in the second half, along with Scetre Court in the City of London and a rent review on a third of Woolgate House, also in the City.

Hammerson has also enlarged the site of a development in Manhattan, New York, to make space for 550,000 square feet of offices.

Earl buys half stake in Cannon cinemas

By Martin Waller

Mr Peter Earl, the merchant banker, yesterday emerged as the buyer of a half stake in the Cannon Group chain of high street cinemas, acting on behalf of an unnamed consortium of property developers.

The deal mirrors Cannon's sale of Elstree film studios in Hertfordshire earlier this year, also to an unnamed consortium fronted by Mr Earl's bank, Tranwood Earl.

In the latest deal Cannon and the consortium have each taken a half-stake in a joint venture, Cannon Cinema Developments. Cannon, the biggest UK cinema owner in terms of screens, has injected 140 of its properties, mainly freehold, while retaining 12 of its smaller, least profitable cinemas, while Mr Earl's backers have put in £80 million.

Mr Earl said the new deal showed the way forward for the cinema industry, which would follow the retail sector in going for large, out-of-town complexes.

The joint venture, which is taking on about 370 cinema screens in all, has pledged to maintain a total of at least 400 in Britain during the redevelopment.

Some small high street cinemas would inevitably have to close, with the venture taking a profit on developing them for alternative uses, said Mr Barry Jenkins, managing director of Cannon UK.

The film industry's reaction to the news was cautiously welcoming - reports had initially suggested that Cannon was going to sell the entire chain for redevelopment.

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7/15/10/88

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Management team in £93m deal for Invergordon Distillers

Graham Searjeant
Financial Editor

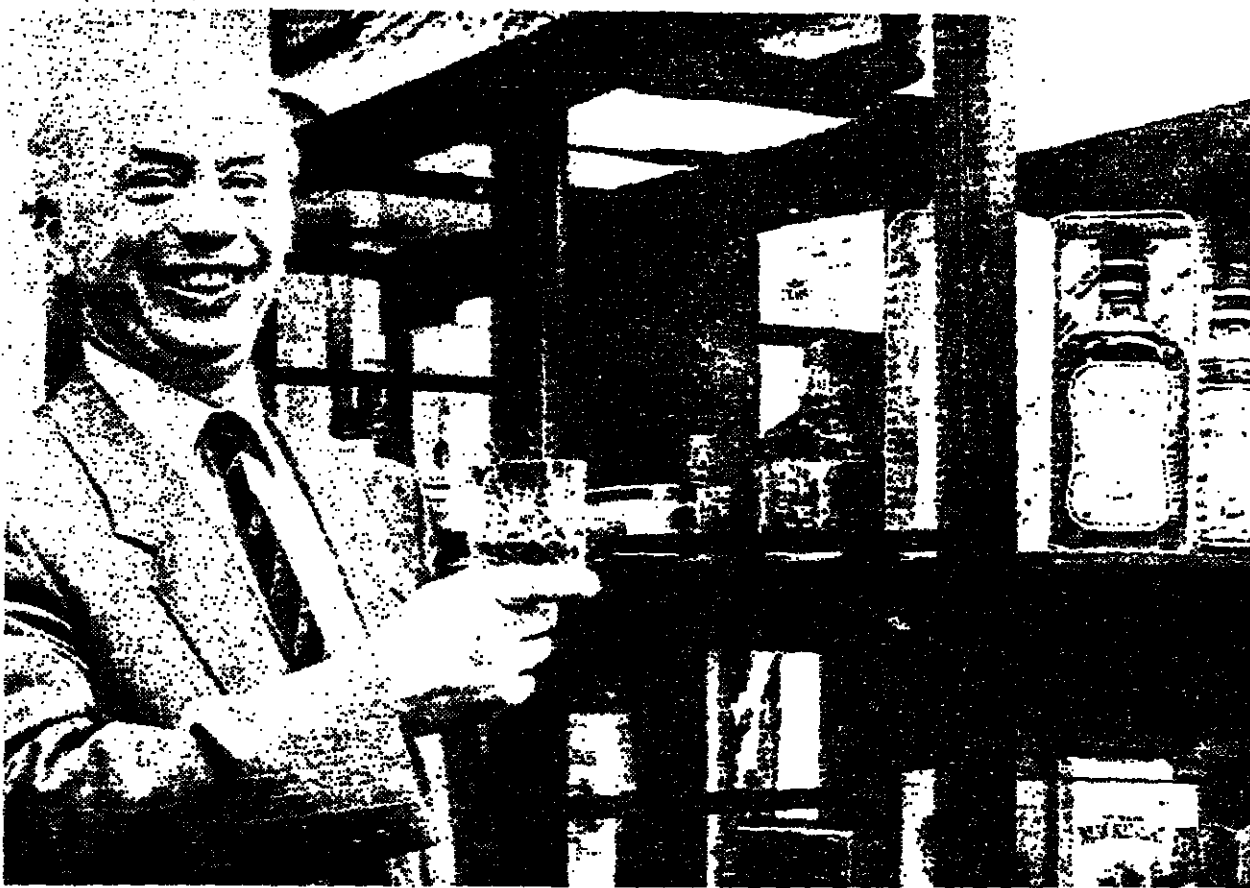
The management of Invergordon Distillers is to buy the bulk whisky and own-label spirits group for £93 million. The offer, which is recommended by independent directors, has been agreed by Hawker Siddeley, which owns 65 per cent of Invergordon, though the electrical group has reserved its right to accept a higher bid.

Invergordon shares jumped a further 26p to 396p on the offer, which is almost 30 per cent higher than Invergordon's share price before the management bid approach was announced last week.

Hawker Siddeley acquired a three-quarters interest in Invergordon when it bought Lord Rayne's car battery group, Carlton Industries, in 1985. Invergordon issued more shares to buy the whisky interests of Scottish & Newcastle, including Mackinlay's and other brand names. Since then it has developed a new strategy of using the cash flow from bulk sales to develop its branded sales of whisky and of Glavva whisky liqueur.

Profits reached a record £5.6 million pre-tax in 1987 and the bid price is 24.6 times 1987 earnings of 16.5p per share. But profits for the first half of 1988 jumped 49 per cent to £3.9 million and City analysts have already forecast £7.7 million for the year as market conditions improve for Invergordon's large mature stocks leading to higher prices.

The bid consortium is headed by Invergordon's managing director Dr Chris Greig and includes its non-



Raise your glass: Dr Chris Greig, the managing director, toasts the future yesterday with one of Invergordon's whiskies

executive chairman Mr Charles Craig and Invergordon's two other executive directors. Their offer, made through investment bankers Robert Fleming, is backed by equity, senior debt and mezzanine finance.

The shelf company making the offer, called DMWS 99 plc for the time being, will be 15 per cent owned by the four directors, but this share-

holding includes a trust for other employees, most of whom will be given the opportunity to buy shares.

Invergordon said yesterday that it wanted to pass as much ownership as far down the line as possible. Institutional investors and lenders will own the remaining 85 per cent.

The Scottish registered company aims to go private but to seek a Stock Exchange

quotation in the longer term. Already, 2.3 per cent of the Invergordon shares have irrevocably agreed to accept the offer. This includes Scottish & Newcastle's 4.7 per cent.

Hawker Siddeley, which will raise £60 million from the bid, says the disposal is part of its programme of selling peripheral interests and re-investing the proceeds in expanding its core, mainly

electrical businesses.

In the past six months, Hawker Siddeley has sold two companies involved in water treatment and water screening and a company making transport refrigeration units. Since the beginning of 1986, it has spent £230 million on acquisitions, including two American companies in instruments and controls and another making gear motors.

Rover advances 10% in Europe

By Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent

Rover's sales in Europe have improved 10.5 per cent this year — double the growth of the Western European market, which is heading for a record 12.6 million registrations in 1988.

With sales up 35,000, to 368,000, in the first nine months of the year, Rover moved ahead of Mercedes in the European car market, with a 3.7 per cent share. Only BMW and PSA (Peugeot-

Citroën) exceeded Rover's growth, according to the latest estimates from Automotive Industry Data.

A strong UK performance in August and September helped Rover's European sales as Rover and Range Rover continued to strengthen their positions.

Fiat remains in number one position, ahead of Volkswagen/Audi/Seat, but the AID Newsletter gives a warning

that "early estimated results for the nine months to September are suggesting that Fiat efforts are flagging while VAG are rapidly catching up."

Fiat has a 14.7 per cent share in Europe — down from 16 per cent in the first quarter, according to AID — while VAG has improved its standing from 13.9 per cent to 14.5 per cent.

As strong September sales in Italy, France and Britain

helped push sales up 5.3 per cent, to 9.95 million, for the period January to September. BMW and PSA recorded impressive growth of 20.6 and 13.5 per cent respectively.

BMW has received critical acclaim for its new mid-size 5 series, while the Peugeot 405 and Citroën AX have fuelled PSA's prospects, which will see it add one percentage point to its 1987 European share of 11.7 per cent.

Luxury models roar to record sales

By Our Motor Industry Correspondent

Sales of luxury cars costing between £20,000 and £55,000 are up by almost a third this year, far outstripping the overall growth in the British car market.

In the first nine months of 1988, combined sales of the top BMW, Jaguar and Mercedes models have jumped 28.7 per cent, to 14,866. Jaguar is set to sell more than 14,000 cars in Britain this year, as registrations for the first nine months rose 27.7 per cent, to 9,142. UK sales have almost doubled since 1986.

BMW has achieved similar growth with the new 7 series model, and this year sales have climbed 57.7 per cent to 3,451. Sales of the cheapest 7



Couran's choice: the top-of-the-range V12 BMW 750iL

series model, the 730, are up by two-thirds compared with 1987.

The 300 SEL, the biggest-selling large Mercedes model, achieved a sales growth of 16 per cent, but the £50,000 560

SEL slipped 44.8 per cent, to just 125 registrations.

Among the highest echelons of luxury saloons the V12 BMW 750iL has captured the critical limelight, with owners including Sir Terence Couran,

the Storehouse chairman, yet it is still outsold by the much older V12 Jaguar, which will not be replaced by a model based on the latest XJ6 until 1990.

The Mercedes S class is the oldest model in the luxury car sector — a replacement will be launched in 1990 — yet sales have stood up well, improving 3.9 per cent to 2,273 so far this year.

Spending on expensive cars has extended to the Range Rover, which is enjoying record demand in Britain. Sales of 5,027 have already passed the total for the full 12 months of 1987.

Worldwide sales have passed 17,000 in the first nine months of 1988, 19 per cent more than last year's record.

Era Group profits slip to half-time £828,000

By Martin Waller

Era Group, the new specialist retail vehicle of Mr Murray Gordon, saw pre-tax profits drop to £828,000, from £861,000, in the first half to end-June. The half-year dividend is held at 1p.

The drop reflected problems at Lexterton, the specialist chain selling retail furniture, after a fire at the polishing plant in 1987.

Stock overvaluations would take a further £231,000 off full-year profits, said Mr Gordon, the former chairman of

Combined English Stores. Lexterton's difficulties pulled profits from this side of the business back by £555,000 to £217,000. Beattie's, the model and toy trains shop chain, made its usual seasonal first-half loss, this time of about £250,000. Mr Gordon added: "The balance of profits came from property and ancillary activities."

Tecno, the camera retailer, was added too late to have an impact on the first-half figures.

TNT sets up express cargo line to Budapest

TNT, the air freight and road haulage company, yesterday announced it is to expand its operations into the Eastern bloc. Next week it will sign a deal with the Hungarian government to operate an express air delivery service into Budapest airport.

Yesterday's announcement came as the company unveiled plans to invest £150 million in the next year.

Mr James Wilson, general manager of TNT Express in Britain, said: "It is a milestone not only for TNT Express but for Britain and the freight

industry as it is the first step in setting up an integrated network in Eastern Europe."

The company will fly more BAe 146 QJ "whispering jet" freighters to its existing fleet of seven aircraft before December at a cost of £60 million.

The company also yesterday announced the launch of TNT Air Container Line, a daytime service to important European cities on up to five days a week. It will use only containers or pallets.

All the services will be operated from Luton Airport, the company's base in Britain.

Companies raise £300m in spite of high rates

By Richard Thomson
Banking Correspondent

Three leading companies yesterday undertook capital-raising exercises totalling about £300 million despite high interest rates.

TSB Group issued £100 million in subordinated debt, its first foray into the domestic sterling bond market. The money will count as tier-two capital under the new international capital requirements for banks. The bonds will mature in 20 years.

British Telecom also entered the debt markets with a £250 million (£143 million) 10-year Eurobond paying interest of 9 1/2 per cent. The proceeds have been swapped into floating rate sterling borrowing in order to eliminate the company's currency exposure on the capital.

UEI, the engineer, was the third company to raise capital. It has mandated Midland Bank to arrange a £60 million multi-currency option facility supported by a £40 million standby facility.

Klöckner revises oil losses

By Our City Staff

Klöckner & Co, the West German trading house, yesterday said losses from forward oil deals would probably be lower than the DM600 million (£188 million) to DM700 million estimate given earlier this week.

An extraordinary meeting of its supervisory board has been called for today to discuss the situation, but no decisions are expected. The surprise damage from oil trading at the private company has brought speculation that the losses could affect two publicly quoted, related companies — Klöckner Werke, the steelmaker, and KHD, the engineering group.

Deutsche Bank, the leading German bank, which has stepped in to cover Klöckner's potential losses, has appointed Ms Nancy Kropp, an American oil expert, to take charge of Klöckner's oil trading operations. She effectively replaces Herr Peter Henle, a board member and shareholder of Klöckner, who resigned.

Klöckner said Herr Henle was not suspected on any wrongdoing, but had accepted the consequence of actions by junior-level employees who are believed to have broken internal trading rules.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Ernst & Whinney will advise in water selloff

The Water Companies Association, which represents Britain's 28 statutory private water companies, has appointed its own financial adviser on the implications of water privatization, which will oblige the companies to convert to conventional p.l.c.s. Ernst & Whinney, the accountant and consulting group, is forming teams to examine the impact of the new licensing arrangements, which will substitute price control for the companies' limitation of dividends.

Mr Eric Anstee, the director of privatization at Ernst & Whinney, said the new basis would be fair to the companies, which supply a quarter of families in England and Wales, as well as the privatized water authorities. He said: "The inherent conflict of interest between shareholders and consumers will also be more evident in this industry than any privatization so far."

Simon road fleet expands £5m upgrade at CWS plant

Simon Engineering is paying £100,000 initially in new shares for Holmes Transport (Epworth) in a move which gives it the largest bulk road haulage fleet on South Humber. There is a deferred consideration of a year period of the investment programme the workforce will be reduced from its present level of 570 to about 400 people.

Forward outlook dull

Forward Technology, the ultrasonics and music cassette group, expects lower profits in 1988 than the £3.5 million pre-tax figure in 1987. This is due to lack of orders for ultrasonic cleaning equipment caused by uncertainty about industry regulations. However, dividends should improve on last year's 1p total and an interim of 0.6p is being paid.

In the first six months of the year, Forward Technology made pre-tax profit of £743,000 (£1.2 million in 1987) on sales down from £15.8 million to £15 million. The seasonal sound and vision division made an increased loss of £217,000 (£88,000) and operating profit of the electronics division dropped from £1.46 million to £1.04 million. Earnings per share fell from 1.9p to 1.4p.

£1.6m loss at Monotype Harrap chiefs buy company

Monotype, the typesetting and graphic arts equipment group, has produced the sizeable first-half loss it forecast in July. At £1.6 million, the figure was smaller than the £2 million indicated and its shares were unchanged. The loss was caused by development costs on a new range of products being written off against current profits.

Honeysuckle climbs

Honeysuckle Group, the women's fashion company which came to the Unlisted Securities Market in April 1987, reported pre-tax profits up from £1.25 million to £1.95 million in the year to May 31. Mr David Serr, Honeysuckle's chairman, reported that the 1988 winter range had been well received. However, dullness in the fashion market and development costs would lead to lower profits in the first half of this year.

Sales rose 40 per cent last year from £12 million to £16.8 million. A final dividend of 3.6p was declared, making a total of 5.6p for the year and earnings per share increased from 10.6p to 14p. Direct exports to Europe were up by 35 per cent to £1.4 million. The shares fell 10p yesterday to 135p.

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Prediction by US energy secretary as Madrid meeting nears

Opec 'likely to set \$10 oil price floor'

By Colin Narborough

The US energy secretary, Mr John Herrington, yesterday predicted that the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries was unlikely to let the price of crude oil fall below \$10 a barrel for a sustained period.

His prediction, made at an oil conference in London, comes ahead of next week's joint session in Madrid of Opec's pricing and long-term strategy committees, designed to seek ways of restoring output discipline and prices.

The \$10 floor Mr Herrington anticipates compares with the view, held by many oil analysts, that the price could drop into single figures unless Opec curbs production and ends the present glut.

North Sea Brent crude has

recovered more than a dollar from the \$11.20 a barrel it fell to last month — its lowest level for more than two years.

Indonesia and Libya have called for an emergency ministerial meeting of Opec before the next scheduled meeting on November 21. Dr Subroto, the cartel's secretary general, has not ruled out an emergency session.

Meanwhile, British Petroleum has issued a clear warning to the oil and gas industry not to underestimate the continued value of the North Sea as a source of supply outside that provided by Opec.

The message was delivered by Mr Basil Butler, the BP managing director in charge of worldwide exploration and production, in a speech to the

Institute of Petroleum in Glasgow on Thursday night.

While he doubted that any very big individual oil fields — exceeding 500 million barrels — would be discovered in the North Sea, he said there were still some 8 billion barrels in the United Kingdom as a whole, almost half the amount already discovered.

Furthermore, there was the growing significance of North Sea gas. BP had estimated that 40 trillion cubic metres of gas awaited discovery, equivalent to 7 billion barrels of oil.

Mr Butler said that how much of the North Sea's potential could be realised would depend on the industry's technical capability to extend the life of existing reserves, on its ability to produce oil and gas from small

fields, and on the oil price. "It is in the interests of consumers that the North Sea should be developed to its full potential," he said, underlining that 70 per cent of proven world oil reserves were still under Opec control.

He called on the oil industry to do its utmost to find non-Opec alternatives, noting that the North Sea presented one of the most attractive and promising opportunities.

The fact that no new oil provinces had been discovered outside Opec in recent years made it necessary to seek fresh non-Opec sources, he said.

"And that is why in international terms, let alone the UK economy, the North Sea retains significance in the energy equation," he added.

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¶ 1992 might be four years away, and all that. But you'll need more than a four minute warning about the changes that it will make to Europe.

¶ In fact, at Foreign & Colonial, we'd recommend you start taking action now. The markets are already moving and delay could cost you very dear indeed.

¶ Take a look at some of the comments from our investment managers.

¶ "Already economic growth this year is turning out way ahead of earlier expectations, and we'd expect it to continue. Unlike the UK, European growth is sound, being capital-investment and export-led with minimal upward wage pressure." (Your average Frenchman or German is looking at a 3 to 4% increase in pay this year compared with almost 9% for Britain's Joe Public.)

¶ Or consider this one.

¶ "Financial analysts are revising European corporate earnings estimates upwards for this and next year. Profits are benefiting from buoyant economic activity, firm control of costs, and a stronger US dollar - up 19% against the Deutschmark since January."

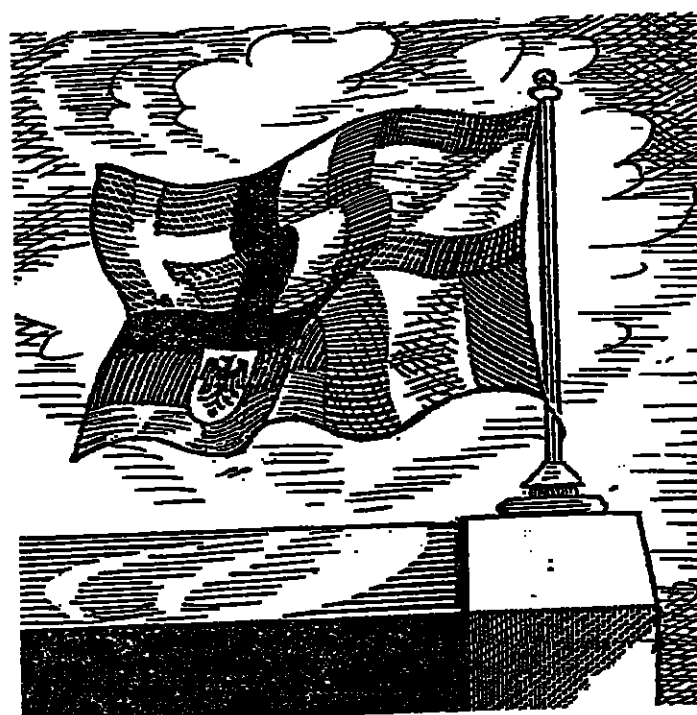
¶ And the latest German Bundesbank reports confirm that Foreign & Colonial aren't the only ones looking again at the European markets. Having wholeheartedly sold German shares for almost a year, their figures show that foreign investors have now started buying again.

¶ You see what we mean about getting in now? And there is something else to bear in mind.

¶ 1992 is still to come.

¶ The removal of all trade barriers is bound to have its effect. All those quaint foreign Customs formalities that currently cost European companies an estimated £5 billion a year in duties will go. And you needn't take our word about the stimulus to economic growth. The European Commission's estimates of an extra 4.5% growth in GNP make pretty convincing reading.

¶ There's the deregulation of transport, financial service, food and drink industries to take into consideration.



¶ Not to mention the takeover and merger activity as predators eye up European companies with strong cash flow and undervalued assets. Rich pickings for someone. Including you perhaps.

¶ The Foreign & Colonial Group is already using its 60 years' experience in Europe to move large sums of money into the area. You don't get to thrive in business since 1868, and manage over £2000 million of investors' money without spotting something this spectacular.

¶ If you'd like to consider investing from £500, our European Income Fund is ready, if not exactly waiting. (Already investors have £18.8 million in it, strategically positioned to produce capital growth and a reasonable income.)

¶ Remembering that past performance is no guide to the future and that the value of units and the income from them can fall as well as rise, you should complete the coupon if you wish to invest or would like more information. Or talk to your financial adviser about 1992.

¶ And all that you want to know.

Foreign & Colonial
Unit trusts

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Trust objective: To achieve capital growth, with a reasonable income, through investment in continental Europe.

Income distribution: Income distributions are on 15 March and 15 September. Distributions are paid net of basic-rate tax. Higher rate taxpayers may have a liability to tax at their higher rate.

Pricing Basis: Units will be purchased or redeemed at a forward price, i.e. at the price calculated after the valuation which commences next following receipt of your completed application. For deals placed over a weekend units will be allocated or redeemed at the price determined after the valuation commencing at 12 noon on the next business day. Prices are published daily in the Financial Times, The Times and Daily Telegraph.

Dealing: The Trust is valued at 12 noon on each business day. Bid and offer prices of units are determined by 2 pm the same day. Requests to purchase or redeem units may be made by post or by telephone on any business day during normal business hours. Applications will not be acknowledged but a contract note will normally be issued on the business day following the day on which the purchase price is determined and certificates normally sent within 21 days of payment being received by the Managers. Minimum initial investment is £500 but any number of units can be added at any time.

Units may be sold back to the Managers by telephone or in writing. A cheque for repurchase proceeds will normally be issued within four working days of receipt by the Managers of the unit certificate, with the reverse side completed and signed.

The most recent offer (buying) and bid (selling) prices of units and gross estimated annual yield are published daily in the Financial Times, The Times and Daily Telegraph.

On 15th October 1988 the offer price of units was 68.41p. The estimated gross annual yield was 2.13 per cent. The maximum permitted difference on that day between offer and bid price was 6.5 per cent, although the quoted difference was 6.4 per cent.

Charges: An initial charge of 5 per cent is included in the offer price and an annual charge of 1 per cent plus VAT of the value of the Fund is deducted each month in arrears. The Managers have discretion to increase the initial charge to a maximum of 6 per cent.

Tax on capital gains: The Trust is not liable to capital gains tax on any gains made in buying and selling investments. On a disposal of units investors may be subject to capital gains tax. The capital gains tax exemption for 1988/89 is £5000.

Managers: Foreign & Colonial Unit Management Limited.
Registered Office: 1 Laurence Pountney Hill, London EC4R 0BA.
Registered Company No: 1092963.
Member of IMRO, LAUTRO and the Unit Trust Association.

Governing Law: F & C European Income Fund is an authorised securities scheme under the Financial Services Act 1986 and a "wider-range" investment under the Trustee Investments Act 1961. The Trustee is Midland Bank Plc (member of IMRO). Cancellation rights do not apply to investments made in response to this advertisement.

Copies of the Scheme Particulars to this Trust and of the annual and half-yearly reports are available on request.

To: Foreign & Colonial Unit Management Ltd,
1 Laurence Pountney Hill, London EC4R 0BA. Telephone: 01-623 4680.

☐ Tick box for more information about F&C European Income Fund.

I/We wish to invest £_____ in units of F & C European Income Fund at the offer price next calculated following receipt of this application and a cheque made payable to Foreign & Colonial Unit Management Limited is enclosed.
(Minimum initial investment £500)

I/We declare that I/We am/are over 18.

Surname (Mr, Mrs, Miss) _____

Forenames (in full) _____

Address _____

Signature _____

In the case of joint holders all must sign.

T/15/10/88

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Sterling index compared with 1975 was up at 76.9 (day's range 76.5-76.9).				OTHER STERLING RATES	
STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES					
Percent rates for October 14					
	Close	1 month	3 month		
Argentina austral	20.900-20.20				
Australia dollar	2.1552-2.15				
Bahian cruzeiro	8.00-8.00				
Brazil cruzeiro	894.00-897				
Cypriot pound	0.82-0.82				
Czech koruna	7.00-7.25				
Greek drachma	256.00-260				
Hong Kong dollar	13.6569-13.67				
India rupee	100-100				
Indonesian rupiah	4.8911-4.49				
Japanese yen	360-360				
Malaysian ringgit	0.4861-0.48				
Mexican peso	16.67-16.67				
New Zealand dollar	2.7802-2.79				
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.5125-6.52				
Singapore dollar	2.00-2.00				
South African rand	7.0250-7.10				
S Africa rand (cont.)	4.2815-4.28				
U A E dirham	8.3775-8.41				
				*London Bank Rates quoted	

MONEY MARKETS

[illegible]**GOLD**[illegible]

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURE

	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol		Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
FT-SE 100					Predicted open interest 13865	US Treasury Bond					Predicted open interest
Dec 89	184.30	185.00	184.00	185.70	41120	Dec 89	95-18	95-04	95-14	95-27	
Mar 90	NT	NT	NT	197.70	9	Dec 90	95-31	95-21	95-31	95-58	
Three Month Sterling					Predicted open interest 19120	Jan 91	95-31	95-21	95-31	95-58	
Dec 89	94.30	94.30	94.30	95.10	12710	Mar 91	95-31	95-21	95-31	95-58	
Mar 90	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.87	1265	May 91	95-31	95-21	95-31	95-58	
Jun 90	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.87	1265	Jul 91	95-31	95-21	95-31	95-58	
Sep 90	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.87	1265	Oct 91	95-31	95-21	95-31	95-58	
Three Month Eurodollar					Predicted open interest 13582	Japanese Govt Bond					Predicted open interest
Dec 89	91.28	91.43	91.28	91.43	1454	Dec 89	104-75	104-50	104-68	104-89	
Mar 90	91.47	91.64	91.47	91.64	1454	Dec 90	104-75	104-50	104-68	104-89	
Jun 90	91.28	91.43	91.28	91.43	1454	Jan 91	104-75	104-50	104-68	104-89	
Sep 90	91.28	91.43	91.28	91.43	1454	German Govt Bond					Predicted open interest
Dec 89	91.28	91.43	91.28	91.43	1454	Dec 89	98-08	98-07	98-08	98-26	
Mar 90	91.28	91.43	91.28	91.43	1454	Dec 90	98-08	98-07	98-08	98-26	
Jun 90	91.28	91.43	91.28	91.43	1454	Jan 91	98-08	98-07	98-08	98-26	
Sep 90	91.28	91.43	91.28	91.43	1454	Feb 91	98-08	98-07	98-08	98-26	

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THE  TIMES

**TO PLACE A BIRTH,
MARRIAGE OR
DEATH NOTICE IN
THE TIMES NEWSPAPER**

Please telephone by 5.00p.m. for the announcement to be published in the following days issue.

01 481 4000

Portfolio PLUS Accumulator

From your Portfolio gold card check your claim stamp price movements, on this page only. Add these prices to your running total for the week and check this against the weekly dividend figure on this page. If it matches or better this figure, you have won outright or a share of the total weekly or accumulator prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Claim rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Claim or Loss
1	Barclays	Banking	
2	British Airways	Airline	
3	British Telecom	Telecom	
4	British Petroleum	Oil	
5	British Steel	Steel	
6	British Sugar	Sugar	
7	British United	Insurance	
8	British Waterways	Waterways	
9	British Airways	Airline	
10	British Telecom	Telecom	
11	British Petroleum	Oil	
12	British Steel	Steel	
13	British Sugar	Sugar	
14	British United	Insurance	
15	British Waterways	Waterways	
16	British Airways	Airline	
17	British Telecom	Telecom	
18	British Petroleum	Oil	
19	British Steel	Steel	
20	British Sugar	Sugar	
21	British United	Insurance	
22	British Waterways	Waterways	
23	British Airways	Airline	
24	British Telecom	Telecom	
25	British Petroleum	Oil	
26	British Steel	Steel	
27	British Sugar	Sugar	
28	British United	Insurance	
29	British Waterways	Waterways	
30	British Airways	Airline	
31	British Telecom	Telecom	
32	British Petroleum	Oil	
33	British Steel	Steel	
34	British Sugar	Sugar	
35	British United	Insurance	
36	British Waterways	Waterways	
37	British Airways	Airline	
38	British Telecom	Telecom	
39	British Petroleum	Oil	
40	British Steel	Steel	
41	British Sugar	Sugar	
42	British United	Insurance	
43	British Waterways	Waterways	
44	British Airways	Airline	
45	British Telecom	Telecom	
46	British Petroleum	Oil	
47	British Steel	Steel	
48	British Sugar	Sugar	
49	British United	Insurance	
50	British Waterways	Waterways	

Please take into account any minus signs

Week	Dividend	Claim
1	1000	1000
2	1000	1000
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Week	Dividend	Claim
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Week	Dividend	Claim
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FAMILY MONEY

Savings drive on spenders

A new National Savings vehicle will be launched in the new year aimed at turning high spenders into enthusiastic savers.

But it is hard to see how the new Capital Bond might become the Yuppie Bond and persuade spenders to rein back.

Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, announced this week that the Capital Bond will have a fixed rate of interest rising over the five years of its life. But unlike the existing National Savings Certificates the interest will be taxable. So a market rate for non-taxpayers and basic-rate taxpayers will not be terribly attractive for higher-rate taxpayers.

Savers are limited to putting £1,000 into the current 34th issue of National Savings Certificates, because of the "gift" to taxpayers, but there will be no limit on the amount that can be invested in the Capital Bond.

Interest paid on Capital Bonds will be gross, so non-taxpayers too will be encouraged to invest, and, as with Savings Certificates, the interest rate for completing the five years will be pitched so that there is a strong incentive to stay the course.

The Capital Bond will replace Deposit Bonds, which will be withdrawn from sale on November 19. Deposit Bonds are subject to variable interest rates, recently raised to 10.75 per cent. Like the new Capital Bond, this is gross, but taxable. Deposit Bonds can be redeemed by National Savings 10 years after their issue. So existing holdings will be gradually repaid.

Interest rates from National Savings have been unappealing recently as the Treasury has not needed to draw in large amounts of cash. National Savings has been concerned to attract "sticky money" rather than short-term money that is withdrawn after short periods.

The switch from Deposit Bonds, requiring three months' notice to cash, to Capital Bonds, with a strong incentive to hold on for five years, is a continuation of this policy.



Echoed today: the Fritter Fly of the post-war campaign

After five years the Deposit Bonds will mature and be repaid. The General Extension Rate, at present 5.01 per cent, applies only to fixed-interest certificates.

The attractiveness of Capital Bonds will depend on the rate of interest. But that will not be announced until shortly before the launch in early January.

National Savings is continuing to exploit its unique

privilege in being able to offer investments with interest paid gross, so National Savings is the natural home for non-taxpayers' savings.

However, the Government is increasingly reluctant to put out tax-free schemes. The only remaining offers are the 34th issue of Savings Certificates paying 7.5 per cent and limited to £1,000 of new money, and the Yearly Plan, also paying 7.5 per cent, limited to £200 a month.

For the 40 per cent taxpayer these are far better value than the nominal 10 per cent on offer from the investment account, which is taxable and thus worth just 6 per cent (see interest rates round-up table).

Peter Lilley, Economic Secretary to the Treasury said: "There will be no tax to pay for many pensioners and, once we move to independent taxation, for many wives too. But at the same time, the tax treatment of the Bond will not involve the Exchequer forgoing top-rate tax from higher-rate taxpayers."

But few pensioners will want to tie up their money for five years or risk a lower rate if they withdraw early. There is also the disadvantage that five years' worth of interest will be repaid all at once, creating the risk of turning non-taxpayers into taxpayers.

Mr Lilley announced that from today the limit on the amount from maturing Savings Certificates that can be reinvested into the current 34th issue is doubled from £5,000 to £10,000. But new money that can be invested remains limited to £1,000.

Vivien Goldsmith



A growing practice and a growing business: cellular phones

A great phones sale in the air

If you like the idea of investing in Britain's booming cellular telephone industry, there is still time to buy shares in Rascal Telecom, the company that runs Vodafone.

But unless you are a shareholder in the parent Rascal Electronics company there are few shares on offer.

However, the Rascal Telecom Group flotation promises to be the year's most exciting new issue. About £340 million worth of shares are being sold, valuing RTG at a luscious £1.7 billion. But the issue is mainly an in-house affair. RTG's parent is selling 20 per cent of the stock mostly to its existing shareholders.

The Government granted two cellular phone licences in the 1980s - one to British Telecom, the other to Rascal. Vodafone was launched in January 1985. By March 1986 it had 27,000 subscribers. Now it has nearly 250,000 and has overhauled its BT rival Celnat, capturing a 55 per cent market share.

Profits have mushroomed too. From £6 million losses in 1986, Vodafone burst into the black the following year, making £14 million. Last year

Vodafone brought in profits of £53 million and is headed for more than £70 million in the present trading period.

City analysts see £120 million as likely in Vodafone's next financial year. No third government licence to operate in competition with Celnat and Vodafone is likely for several years, and it will take a newcomer a couple of years to build itself a national network of radio cells.

Rascal Telecom shares are not being offered cheaply. In fact, the price of 170p per share represents a multiple of 30 times expected earnings per share for the current year. By British standards this is a sky-high rating.

You should regard this as a long-term investment, though there may be some modest stagging profits to be made in first-day dealings. The Rascal Telecom prospectus with an application form will be available from certain branches of Barclays Bank. Completed application forms must be received by 10 am next Friday.

John Bell
City Editor

M&G OFFERS

NO SALESMAN WILL CALL

YEAR BOOK PAGE

Unit Trusts offer managed investment in British and overseas stock markets for £1,000 or more.

3-17

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THE M&G GROUP

Transatlantic tracking

Following hard on the heels of the unit trusts that track the index in Britain comes one that paces the Standard & Poors Index in the United States, writes Vivien Goldsmith.

"We are the first to venture overseas," said Jonathan Custance, managing director of James Capel Unit Trusts. "We are going to blow their socks off."

James Capel is too proud of its research on the domestic market to market a British index fund to the public. But fund managers over here have been doing rather badly over there.

In fact, during the past five years not one American unit trust has outperformed the Standard & Poors Index.

Although the Standard & Poors Index rose during the period 76.5 per cent, the average US unit trust rose by just 19.5 per cent.

Mr Custance Baker says

that the US is a hard market to get right for outsiders, so there is justification for looking towards an index-tracking fund.

The fund will not invest in all 500 of the stocks on the index, but a selection to mirror the movements in the index.

The James Capel American Index Fund has a minimum investment of £1,000. The initial charge is 5 per cent and the annual management fee 1 per cent.

There is a 2 per cent discount during the launch period - from October 31 to November 18.

James Capel will be launching other funds to track overseas indices.

But although it is the first unit trust group to launch an overseas unit trust tracking a foreign index, Foreign & Colonial already runs a range of index funds as part of the offshore umbrella fund, Reserve Asset Fund Ltd.

There are four-index tracking funds - US, Japanese, UK and Global. These are synthetic funds, which means that they do not actually hold stocks to replicate the index they track, but buy futures to reproduce the performance of the index.

In fact, 95 per cent of the fund is held in cash instruments that earn interest as just a small percentage of a futures contract has to be actually handed over. But meanwhile, the fund is 100 per cent exposed to the movements of the index.

A synthetic tracking fund avoids the buying and selling costs incurred by trading in shares.

During its first year, April 1987, the Foreign & Colonial US fund outperformed the Standard & Poors by 3 per cent - enough to compensate for not getting the dividends that would have flowed from actually holding the stocks.

Don't take out a pension plan without considering a few serious quotes.

- 1974 "The best result is that produced by the Equitable which produces a total adjusted annuity of £2,008." PLANNED SAVINGS - OCT
- 1975 "The best results are those produced by the NPI and the Equitable." PLANNED SAVINGS - SEPT
- 1976 "The best performer this year is NPI with the Equitable taking second place in the adjusted figure league." PLANNED SAVINGS - AUG
- 1977 "The best performers for both periods are Equitable Life followed by National Provident Institution." PLANNED SAVINGS - JUL
- 1978 "The best performer this year in the adjusted figure table over a twenty year period is Equitable Life..." PLANNED SAVINGS - JUN
- 1979 "On both the 1959 policy and the 1969 policy, the best results would have been achieved with Equitable Life, followed by Provident Mutual's adjusted figure and National Provident Institution." PLANNED SAVINGS - MAY
- 1980 "For the ten year contract, the highest cash sums are once again provided by Provident Mutual and Equitable." PLANNED SAVINGS - APR
- 1981 "In the accumulated fund category, Equitable was again a winner..." PLANNED SAVINGS - MARCH
- 1982 "Similarly, over the ten year term, Equitable Life edges ahead of NPI into top spot, a position Equitable Life has occupied in our last six surveys." PLANNED SAVINGS - FEB
- 1983 "Equitable Life, paying pensions quarterly in advance, enhances its position..." PLANNED SAVINGS - JAN
- 1984 "Both Equitable Life and Norwich Union appear in the top tens over all three periods..." PLANNED SAVINGS - DEC
- 1985 "... it can be seen that Equitable Life has clearly stolen the show in terms of 20 year performance, by reaching the top place in terms of both accumulated cash fund and total pension." PLANNED SAVINGS - NOV
- 1986 "Without a doubt, Equitable Life takes the honours, only just missing a bat trick." PLANNED SAVINGS - OCT
- 1987 "Equitable Life has headed the list for the past three years running..." PLANNED SAVINGS - SEPT

ESSENTIAL READING FOR THE OVER 40's!



Retirement seems such a long way off when you're only 40. But time has the unpleasant habit of passing by quicker than you realise. Don't risk the needs of the future by avoiding the needs of today. The leaflet 'Retirement' highlights the misunderstandings and pitfalls associated with pension planning.

It is essential reading for anyone concerned about their future security. What's more, it's FREE. Simply send us the completed form below and we'll send you a copy by return. Why put off till tomorrow what you should do today?



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It is always a pleasure to hear good things said about you, even better if compliments are paid over and over again. Better still, in our case, if the source of these compliments is the authoritative financial journal Planned Savings.

The reason for this consistent praise arises from Planned Savings own survey of regular contribution with profits personal pension plans.

Since commencing surveys in 1974 they have published 27 tables

of actual results for such plans over 10, 15 and 20 year terms. The Equitable has come top in 14 and second in 7 more. No other company comes close to this record of consistent performance.

In fact, The Equitable has gained more first places than the rest of the entire life assurance industry combined!

However, past performance is not a guarantee of future performance. Since commencing surveys in 1974 they have published 27 tables

more, about The Equitable's achievements call Aylesbury (0296) 26226 or write to The Equitable Life, FREEPOST, Walton Street, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP21 7BR, if you would like further information by post or by telephone.

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This is a tax shelter for your company's profits.

As a company director, you will be only too aware of the large amounts you pay out each year in tax. So why give this money away when it could be so much better employed in an "Executive Pension Plan" from The Equitable Life. Plans specially designed for those with your kind of company tax obligations.

In fact, such plans are about the only way you personally benefit from your company profits without incurring a tax charge.

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The Equitable Life

Before you look to your future, look to our past.

FAMILY MONEY House boom has moved

David Smith reveals
a new prosperity
emerging in the
North of England

The glum faces tell their own story. The housing market has gone flat and the "highly sought-after residence" that was putting on £200 a day is now an expense, not a source of profit. But 200 miles up the M1 there is a housing boom, with the usual gazumping, silly prices and BMWs outside the estate agents' offices.

The suggestion emerges from recent surveys. The boom is fading in London and the South-East but is just beginning in parts of the North.

"In the last two big housing booms London and the South-East led the way but after the top of the cycle other regions caught up," said Adrian Coles, chief economist at the Building Societies Association. We appear to have passed the peak in the present cycle and house price inflation is heading northwards. I would expect rises to be greater outside London and the South-East over the next 12 months."

Of course, the summer stagnation may simply have been a sign that more people were away on holiday this year. But this has not prevented the revival from spreading north, at first as a ripple effect out of the South-East into long-distance commuter-land, and eventually, under the

pressure from strongly rising real incomes, as a mini-boom in northern house prices in its own right.

Professor Patrick Minford, the Liverpool University economist, has argued that high prices in the South-East are "the Liverpool unemployed's best friend". He now sees signs of a closing of the economic gap between the two halves. "It is a sign that a shift is taking place," he said. "People have been holding on in the South-East in the expectation of even bigger capital gains on their houses. That bubble has certainly begun to burst."

Even so, the gap between house prices in the North and South of Britain has never been wider.

So is the house price divide now a permanent feature, or will the new signs that the gap is about to close become something more substantial? Sky-high prices in the South are a formidable barrier to people wanting to move from the North. Anyone selling a three-bed semi in Newcastle upon Tyne and buying its London counterpart has to find £65,000, or two and a half times the value of the existing property.

High southern house prices mean a greater proportion of the nation's wealth is concentrated there. The sharp rise in home ownership in the post-war period means that inherited housing wealth is becoming increasingly important. This can be ploughed back into the housing market in the South, which would widen the gap, or invested in financial assets, adding to

the bias of financial wealth in the South's favour.

The only obvious beneficiaries of high house prices in the South are estate agents and those who managed to get into the housing market soon enough to be sitting on a huge potential capital gain, or who will inherit such gains from their parents. But all this could be about to change.

The latest Halifax Building Society survey suggests that in the third quarter price increases in Yorkshire and Humberside exceeded those in Greater London for the first time in years. Prices were 28.1 per cent up on those a year earlier, compared with 26.5 per cent in Greater London. Although there are still big increases in East Anglia and the South-West, where prices in the July-September quarter are 50-55 per cent up on those of a year ago, there are also sharp rises in formerly stagnant regions such as the West Midlands, nearly 55 per cent, and Wales, 34.5 per cent.

This contrasts sharply with figures for the earlier phase of the present boom. In the two years to this spring, house prices for the country as a whole rose by a third, according to Nationwide Anglia. But within this average there were wide variations. Increases of 45-55 per cent were recorded in Greater London, the rest of the South-East and East Anglia, and of 35-40 per cent in the South-West.

The East and West Midlands recorded rises of around 30 per cent, but the boom then tailed off rapidly.

There were 10-15 per cent increases in the North-West, Yorkshire and Humberside and Wales, a bare 2 per cent in Northern Ireland, and no increase at all in Scotland, partly because of the end of the oil boom.

Will all this persuade people to sell in the South, pocket their capital gain and bid up property prices in the North? In May Black Horse Relocation, a Lloyds Bank subsidiary, said: "It's now safe, if not downright smart, to consider moving north."

Smart Mitchell, Black Horse's managing director, says people are now appreciating the possibilities of such moves, although most relocations, so far at least, are from the South-East to other parts of the South.

The housing gap has grown wider in the present boom for two principal reasons. The first is that, after the recession of the early 1980s—in which the industrial North was hit hardest—recovery has been strongest in the South. And, because of the change in the distribution of manufacturing industry during the period—Hertfordshire now has a bigger proportion of people in manufacturing than Greater Manchester—the more recent revival of manufacturing has benefited the South much more than would have once been the case.

The second main reason is that mortgages are so freely available now. Southerners have borrowed most aggressively, partly because the short-term pain of high mortgages has been

Continued on facing page

1992
presents tremendous
opportunities
for enterprising
companies.

As an enterprising
company, here's
one we've spotted
that might be
of interest to you.

First things first.
Do you understand about the opening up of Europe in 1992?

YES

WELL, NOT REALLY

Right. In 1992 a number of trading restrictions will be lifted, allowing British and European companies to consider Europe as one market. This will enable them to be more competitive with Japan and the U.S. For companies which prepare well, 1992 should present enormous opportunities.

So, then, presumably you can see that companies which are poised to capitalise on 1992, could well be worth investing in now.

The next question is, do you understand what
unit trusts are?

YES

ER... NO

OK. A unit trust is a "basketful" of shares in each of a number of companies, usually linked by some field or theme which makes them potentially attractive as an investment. By holding shares in a range of these companies, the risk to the investor of something going wrong is reduced. The value of a unit trust can, of course, still go down as well as up.

So you can see that a unit trust which was made up of shares in companies poised to do well from the opening up of Europe might be something worth considering.

Now, do you know anything about Scottish Amicable?

YES

NOT MUCH

Scottish Amicable is one of Britain's oldest and largest life assurance companies and investment houses. It has an outstanding investment record.

It won't surprise you too much, then, to learn that Scottish Amicable is about to launch a new unit trust, which concentrates initially on shares in companies which we feel will do well from 1992.

This unit trust will be available at a fixed price from 26 October 1988 to 15 November 1988. The minimum investment is £1,000. Investors who subscribe to it during that period will receive a bonus of 10% on investments up to £5,000. And of 1% on investments greater than this. In addition this unit trust will attract a unique loyalty bonus of 5% of the initial investment after five years, rising to 10% after ten years.

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Changed lives over the divide

A consultant anaesthetist, Dr Kathy Sherry, and her general practitioner husband, Simon, moved in June last year for promotion, exchanging their four-bedroom semi in Purley, Surrey, which fetched £122,000, for a palatial seven-bedroom, stone-built, mid-Victorian detached house in Sheffield, for which they paid £150,000.

"We're living in a house which we could not afford down south in a million years," Simon Sherry said. About the same time, Dr Richard Gray, who was doing clinical research in Sheffield, obtained a post as senior registrar at a hospital in Slough, Berkshire. He sold a spacious late-Victorian five-bedroom house in Sheffield for £48,000 to buy a four-bedroom modern house in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, for £38,000.

The new house was not big enough for the furniture. The large Victorian wardrobe from Richard and Julia Gray's bedroom is now in the garage in High Wycombe. This medical swap across the North-South divide precisely defines the country's financial contours when it comes to housing costs.

While the Sherrys had only to top their mortgage by £5,000 to £30,000 to afford a house with three times the floor space, the Grays had to double their mortgage for a house with half the floor space of their previous house in South Yorkshire. Only the rise in salary that Dr Gray received by moving back into hospital work enabled him to buy the house at all.

The fact that the consultancy post that Kathy Sherry got happens to be in an area of cheaper housing was a huge, unexpected bonus. In Doncaster, for example, it is still possible to buy a two-bedroom terrace house for £8,500.

The Suliman family are moving from Luton, Bedfordshire, to Sheffield. The move represents a return home for Anwar Suliman who grew up in the city.

The Sulimans killed two birds with one stone when they sold their four-bedroom council house in Luton for £68,000 — it cost them £19,500 three years ago — as it bought a house and a business and left them with substantial change in their pocket.

For £59,000 the Sulimans have acquired an 80-year-old three-bedroom house with an integral shop, a former butchery, plus the outbuildings, including a former abattoir converted from stables and five garages. The house itself sports a billiard room.

"You have to see it to believe it," Mrs Suliman said. "I didn't think we could get anything for that price. It needs a hell of a lot of work doing on it but I think that makes it more yours."

They intend to turn the old butcher's shop, which is on the main Manchester Road, into a Yorkshire. Only the rise in

Continued on facing page

What things would you choose in your perfect pension?

Your Pension Benefit	Yes	No
Retire on maximum salary live well...		
1. Have the extra cash to buy your home abroad and soak up the sun...		
2. Buy your dream home in your favourite county...		
3. Build your Pension with modest monthly contributions with lots of flexibility to increase, decrease or even 'miss' payments...		
4. Collect a healthy cheque and a wealthy pension...		
5. Retire as early as 50. Take a good pension and enjoy life! Even continue working!		

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Planned Savings Survey 1987 (see below)

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Portfolio
PLUS
Accumulator

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's Portfolio price changes (today's are on page 23).

Sec	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Week
1	+7	+5	+3	+3			
2	+5	+6	+3	+1	+8		
3	+7	+5	+6	+4	+4		
4	+8	+5	+3	+4	+5		
5	+6	+4	+4	+2	+5		
6	+9	+5	+6	+4	+6		
7	+5	+7	+4	+2	+6		
8	+8	+6	+6	+3	+4		
9	+5	+7	+2	+2	+7		
10	+5	+4	+2	+1	+3		
11	+7	+6	+5	+5	+4		
12	+5	+5	+5	+2	+4		
13	+7	+3	+3	+3	+5		
14	+7	+5	+5	+3	+3		
15	+4	+8	+4	+3	+6		
16	+7	+4	+5	+3	+5		
17	+6	+6	+5	+1	+6		
18	+9	+5	+4	+3			
19	+8	+6	+5	+6	+2		
20	+4	+5	+3	+3	+7		
21	+6	+5	+5	+2	+3		
22	+8	+5	+6	+4	+4		
23	+6	+5	+9	+2	+5		
24	+7	+6	+3	+1	+4		
25	+7	+4	+8	+2	+6		
26	+8	+5	+6	+5	+2		
27	+5	+6	+3	+1	+3		
28	+8	+8	+4	+1	+6		
29	+7	+5	+5	+3	+2		
30	+7	+3	+5	+3	+5		
31	+8	+8	+3	+2	+6		
32	+9	+7	+5	+3	+2		
33	+8	+4	+7	+3	+4		
34	+6	+4	+4	+2	+4		
35	+4	+5	+2	+1	+6		
36	+7	+7	+6	+4	+3		
37	+8	+4	+5	+2	+4		
38	+8	+5	+3	+2	+6		
39	+7	+5	+3	+3	+5		
40	+9	+4	+7	+2	+5		
41	+6	+5	+4	+1	+4		
42	+4	+5	+2	+3	+5		
43	+7	+3	+6	+3	+6		
44	+8	+5	+5	+3	+3		

LETTERS
High morals,
or cunning?

Am I alone among parents in being wryly amused by the high moral tone currently taken by the banks about their facilities for students? Is it churlish of me to suggest that their motives are a little more mixed than the desire to help future high earners at a rather difficult time in their financial lives?

My son arrived home from his first year at an (English) university with an overdraft of over £500. I have since learnt from various sources that this is by no means unusual and in fact some have commented on the smallness of the amount! However, the initial shock to us was enough to prompt us to write to his bank. The explanation given was that our son had ignored letters from the bank and continued to use the automatic cash dispenser. I find this an absolutely mystifying response, as if I were to try to overdraw from a cash dispenser without permission, the machine would simply refuse to give me the money. Why then does it dispense cash at the touch of a button to impecunious students?

Might I be forgiven for suspecting that some banks are gently encouraging students to form the habit of living beyond their means with consequent financial gain to the banks in the form of heavy interest payments in future years?

JANE MCFARLANE,
Chapel Place,
Dorset, Scotland.

Plc threat

Reading your article re Abbey National Building Society in *The Times* (October 6) reminded me that I wrote to the National & Provincial Building Society on August 6, 1988, saying that if they proceeded to go plc, I would withdraw all my money (several thousands, although not a fortune).

I should add that I had a very prompt and courteous reply, with the expected argument in favour of going plc.

Mrs D.A. DABORN,
Lyndhurst Road,
Ashurst,
Southampton.

FAMILY MONEY

Double risk day

The 66,000 London Life policyholders eligible to vote on the plan to merge with Australian Mutual Provident go to the poll on Wednesday.

Next week's special meeting, at noon in the Barbican, central London, will be the culmination of a saga that started at the end of last year when London Life announced plans to cut bonus rates and rationalize to reduce costs.

In May this year the board of London Life announced plans to merge with AMP, a mutual with 30 per cent of the Australasian life assurance market.

For the merger with AMP to go ahead, 75 per cent of the London Life policyholders who vote must be in favour.

Voters face a difficult decision. Risks are involved, no matter which choice they make.

A vote for AMP must be leap of faith as the group does not have a track record in the UK, and it is clear from the formal merger proposal that it will effectively have control of London Life, even though the British group's funds will remain separate.

A vote against carries the risk of further disruption to London Life's business and the possibility that a substantially better proposal will not be forthcoming from the board.

Policyholders would also be turning their backs on the £15 billion offered by AMP for special bonus payments to London Life policyholders, plus the promise of a further £100 million for development in the next three years.

Members of the ginger group that has been questioning the proposed merger recognized the difficulties in the letter they sent to 500 policyholders this week.

They acknowledge the damage that further uncertainty could cause to policyholders' interests and they stopped short of a recommendation to reject the proposal.

However, they maintain that "merger with Equitable Life has many attractions".

The letter also says that the formal merger documents do not attempt to make out a financial case in favour of AMP versus alternatives and that the proposed arrangements appear to provide no long-term safeguard for the interests of London Life policyholders, other than recourse to the Department of Trade and Industry.

The letter said: "Considerable time and resource has been invested by London Life in negotiating with AMP. Any rejection of the resolution might lead to the loss of much of this investment."



BARRY SHERLOCK, general manager of Equitable Life: "We would be interested in reopening discussions with London Life but policyholders should not consider this an automatic fall-back. We would need up-to-date information on London Life's finances first."

Equitable Life is the only other office, apart from London Life, that does not pay commission to intermediaries. The two seem a logical fit and discussions between them on the possibility of a marriage continued until about two days before the annual general meeting at which London Life announced the AMP plan.

The London Life ginger group said in its letter to policyholders: "We have been in contact with Equitable Life and (whilst we are in no position to represent their views) we have reason to believe that there is a high level of goodwill and interest on their part in an involvement with London Life, if so requested by the board of London Life."

This sounds reassuring. But Barry Sherlock, general manager of Equitable Life, says that his office would be interested in reopening discussions with London Life but policyholders should not consider this an "automatic fall-back".

He said: "The London Life directors would get a warm welcome from us if they were to approach us again but I cannot say what the outcome would be."

Mr Sherlock said that Equitable Life would need up-to-date information on London Life's financial position before being able to make a decision on whether a merger would be possible.

Richard Lazarus, a member of the ginger group concedes that some members of the group now feel that the risk involved with voting against AMP is too great.

"My personal view is that it would be

better to turn the proposal down," he said.

A vote against the existing proposal should be read by the London Life board as a clear indication that policyholders want it to pursue negotiations with Equitable Life, he argues.

He says he hopes that the London Life board would do so without resistance. If necessary the policyholders could use their powers to force the issue, but "one would hope they would see sense".

Equitable Life wanted to merge the London Life fund with its own and to do away with the London Life name.

It would also have rationalized the London Life operation, and this would almost inevitably lead to redundancies.

It did not propose a special bonus payment to London Life policyholders as AMP has done, but Mr Sherlock says this does not mean that the policyholders would not benefit financially.

Andrew Wakeling, deputy managing director of London Life, maintains that AMP was chosen because it was the best option. Around £1 million has been spent on professional advice and the decision was not reached lightly.

The board could go back to Equitable Life, although he is not sure that it would be "encouraged" to put up fresh proposals.

Mr Wakeling says that a substantial number of the proxies received by the middle of this week were in favour of the plan.

Policyholders should note that proxy votes must be in by noon on Monday.

Maria Scott

BRIEFING

Savers get 10 per cent

■ Savers' rates are breaking the 10 per cent barrier. The National & Provincial Building Society has launched a limited-issue, two-year bond paying 10 per cent net. The rate on the Security Bond 2 can vary but is guaranteed to stay at four percentage points above the society's basic rate for the two years. The minimum investment is £500 and partial withdrawals and additions are not permitted. Full withdrawals incur 90 days' loss of interest.

■ The intermediary R.J. Temple, in conjunction with the insurance company Sentinel Life, has launched a Guaranteed Income Bond paying 10 per cent on investments of £25,000 or more. The term is four years and the rates are lower for investments of less than £25,000.

■ General Portfolio now pays up to 10 per cent on its Maximum Income Account, provided investors lock their money up for three years. There are penalties for early withdrawal. The rate can vary, although it is guaranteed to remain at 3.5 points above General Portfolio's basic rate during the term. The minimum investment for annual interest is £1,000 and for monthly income £5,000.



■ Adam Faith, above, will wear his financial adviser's hat when he opens the London Money Show, being held at Olympia from November 3 to 5. Though best known for his musical and acting talents, he is head of Faith Financial Services, which advises on money management.

Tax concession

■ As part of its programme to encourage employees to buy shares in the companies for which they work, the Inland Revenue has made further improvements to the rules on taxation of profits made through this type of investment. The Government introduced legislation in the 1988 Finance Act, which ensured that if an employee paid the same as the public for shares, gains received through getting extra shares in priority allocations were not taxable. But, technically, the exemption did not apply

where the issue included discounts for employees as well as a priority allocation. The rules have been adjusted so that the concession applies to both types of issue. Employees will be taxed on the value of the discount itself but not on the difference between what the public paid and on the market price on any extra shares received.

■ The Yorkshire Building Society has halved the cost of its same-day mortgage service, Mortgage Express, launched in the summer. The fee is now £100 and the society says the reduction has been made possible by administrative streamlining. The service guarantees to make an offer on the day of the application, provided it is made by 10am and proof of income is given.

New service

■ The accountancy firm Price Waterhouse is launching a service for companies and individuals being investigated for tax avoidance or evasion. The service is headed by former senior executives at the Inland Revenue and Customs and Excise. "Both government departments are increasing their resources for dealing with tax investigation," says Price Waterhouse, "and they select officers who have an aptitude for this work and are highly effective."

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You should not consider entering into a Swiss Franc denominated mortgage unless you fully

understand and accept the associated risks. If you are in any doubt at all, please seek the advice of a professional adviser such as your Solicitor or Accountant.

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Medium mortgage term is usually 25 years. Interest is paid quarterly in arrears. Payments are made offshore which means that there is no mortgage tax relief on them.

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FAMILY MONEY

How it has all changed

For many private investors, the crash brought the first real example of how the market can save personal finances.

For some, like Christopher Peach, the 15-year-old schoolboy who came out of the crash owing £20,000, and Anil Gupta, the trainee accountant who ran up debts of £1 million, it brought disaster when their ambitious market activities turned sour.

Even those investing in a much more modest way saw the value of their portfolios diminish substantially virtually overnight. A retired flight engineer, who started investing seriously after a spell working abroad, had a portfolio of shares and unit trusts worth £117,000 before October 19. A little over £40,000 was in unit-linked life funds. By the beginning of December his portfolio was worth £32,000, showing a drop of 21 per cent. "It was a tremendous shock, but fortunately we did not need the money at the time," he said.

A particular blow was the fate of the £30,000 withdrawn from National Savings and put into unit trusts during July and August of 1987. Some of the units bought then for 49.5p still stand at only 34p, a year after the crash.

However, as this investor acknowledges, the October disaster masks some excellent gains built up in previous years. Some units bought for 90p each in 1982 were sold for 245p this summer.

But this man says his enthusiasm for unit trusts has been dampened by his crash experience: "You couldn't get information from the managers that day and you

couldn't deal. Long-term I want to switch to direct investment through equities."

For more experienced investors last October was less of a shock. "I think the word capital should always be preceded by the word risk," says a retired pharmaceutical company executive who has been putting money into the stock market for 40 years. His £250,000 portfolio shrank by about 25 per cent last year.

"Before October, I think a lot of people thought that making money in the stock market was like falling off a log," he said. "If the crash has changed that idea I think it was a positive thing."

This investor probably echoes the experience of many when he says he was somewhat cushioned against the crash because it diminished the taxable gains he had made during the long bull run: "I was showing large paper profits but I was locked in by the potential CGT liability."

Percy Hicks, who runs his own computer company, describes himself as an amateur investor. He inherited a sum of money and invested it in unit-linked life funds with the aim of building up a nest-egg to supplement his pension. Mr Hicks says the funds in which he invested were growing at 19 to 20 per cent a year when he invested, but all the gains were wiped out. "We are back to where we started from," he said.

Mr Hicks has several years to go before retirement, so he hopes to make good the losses before then.

Vic Oliver, a retired design engineer, has been following the markets for many years.

He counts himself among the few who foresaw a shake-out in October.

"The gap between yields on fixed-interest investments and equities had got too wide," he says. Mr Oliver reorganized his £125,000 portfolio of unit-linked funds so that more than two-thirds were in fixed-interest investments.

The result is that the portfolio is worth virtually the same as it was a year ago.

"I am still in fixed interest," says Mr Oliver. "The gap between yields on fixed interest and equities is still too wide. I believe there may be another sharp fall. The FT-SE 100 could go below 1000."

Michael Newman, a retired insurance consultant, had about a third of his free capital invested in unit trusts last October. Like many investors he had watched in wonderment as he saw the value of his holdings increase by up to £1,000 a week in the run-up to October 19. "In retrospect I can see that the market had gone ridiculously high. But you hold on thinking it might go even higher," he said.

But Mr Newman does not count his experience as a disaster. He took some profits this summer on a number of income unit trusts that had rallied and the value of his remaining holdings is roughly the same as when he invested at the beginning of 1986. So overall he is a net gainer.

Life might have been sweeter if he had sold out last summer, but he thinks he has learned a lesson. "That is why I decided to take some profits when they were available this year," he said.

Peter and Sylvia Edwards



Michael Newman: a net overall gain despite the losses

have bravely put money into the market since the crash. Their move was prompted by a change in personal circumstances. Mr Edwards changed jobs, and a house was provided with his new employment. The Edwardses decided to sell their home and invest the proceeds with the aim of building up the capital in preparation for retirement. They hope to buy another home with the proceeds.

They say they are "green" about investment but have already learned the importance of timing, the hard way. If they had waited a few more months before selling their house they would have had several thousand pounds more to invest.

Many investment gurus, including those at the Prudential, are saying this is a good time to buy into the markets because the crash has made shares cheaper.

Maria Scott



Percy Hicks: all gains lost



Vic Oliver: "another fall"



Peter Edwards: brave move

The great LINK-up

The Halifax, Britain's largest building society, is joining forces with LINK, the electronic cash dispenser network, in a move that will create a powerful rival to the clearing banks' cash machines.

The merger will double the number of LINK's automatic teller machines (ATMs) and bring the number of card-holders to nearly eight million.

The Halifax became the pioneer among building societies when it introduced cash machines five years ago. It now has three million card-holders and has opened its 1,000th cash dispenser.

LINK is a comparative newcomer. Since starting in 1986 it has grown rapidly and now includes 25 building societies, National Girobank and some of the smaller British banks.

Three months ago LINK announced plans to merge with the rival Matrix network serving seven building societies.

That created a network of more than 2,000 machines. LINK's rapid growth was a main reason behind the Halifax decision to abandon its independence. When the integration is complete next year, the enlarged network will be able to offer its 10 million customers 3,400 cash machines at building societies, post offices, banks, shopping centres and airports.

John Hardy, the chairman of LINK, said all four top building societies are now members.

The merger brings LINK into contention with the two main cash machine networks operated by the main clearing banks. The National Westminster and Midland network has 3,500 machines and 20 million customers. The largest grouping brings together Barclays, Lloyds and the Royal Bank of Scotland, offering 4,400 machines to nearly 13 million card holders.

But do customers make much use of these extended networks? LINK says its strong brand image means card-holders are much more likely to use machines belonging to other members of the network. It is proud that what it calls "disloyalty transactions" are around 50 per cent. Bank customers, by comparison, are much less likely to use the machines of other banks in their network.

LINK is aiming to expand by inviting yet more institutions to join and by opening up new ATMs.

But the chances of gaining new recruits is dwindling. The fourth largest network is the TSB with 1,500 ATMs and 3.5 million card-holders. However, it is expected to join forces with the NatWest and Midland groupings. Nevertheless, Mr Hardy is predicting growth of between 30 and 50 per cent a year.

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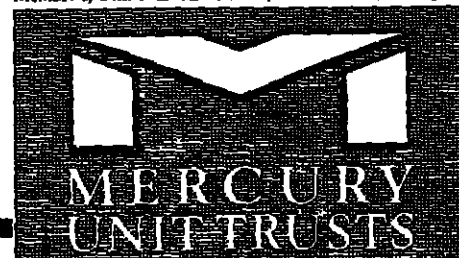
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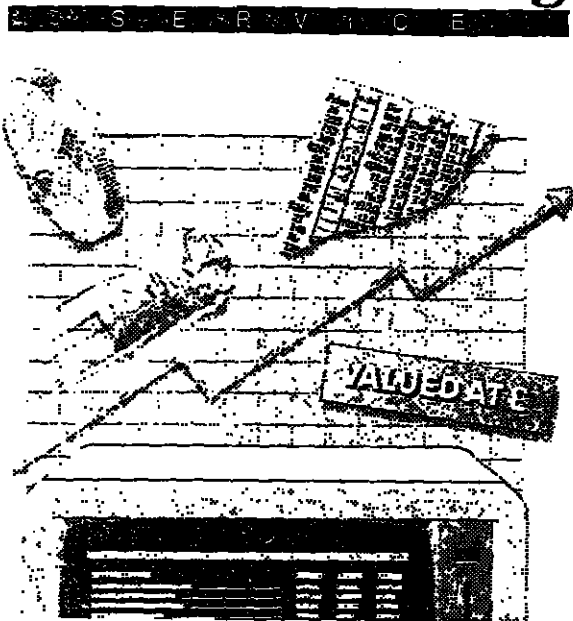
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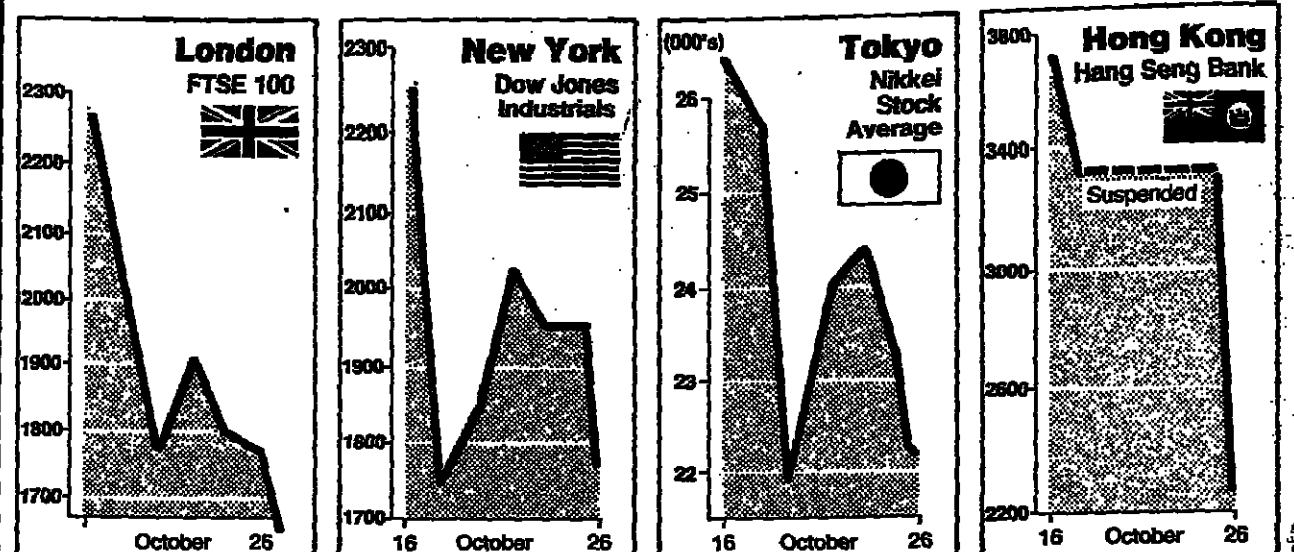


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INSIDE STORY

Two years ago Big Bang widened Britain's financial scene. . .

A ravaged City building again



The day the world's stock markets went wild: The graphs show how London, New York, Tokyo and Hong Kong took a dive

As they fight their way through the rush hour this Monday, the millions who work in the financial world will be hoping that, for the first time in three years, they are spared a major upheaval in the second half of October. At least in 1986 they knew what they were in for: Big Bang, the raft of regulatory changes designed to sweep London's Stock Exchange into the modern era of global securities trading, was fixed for October 27.

That had been preceded by three frantic years of mergers and head-hunting among City firms, as UK and foreign banks rushed to snap up top stockbroking and market-making firms as well as star dealers and analysts. To that circus was added a new computerized dealing system that spectacularly failed to keep up with the flood of orders in Big Bang's early days.

But for sheer heart-stopping panic it was a game of hopscotch compared with last October's crash. The big difference was that no one predicted that the world's stock markets would be hit by such an uncontrollable force.

In Britain, however, it was preceded by an equally unexpected physical calamity of strangely similar proportions. The storm that swept the South of England with forces of up to 110 mph in the early hours of Friday, October 16, 1987, killed 13 people, devastated large swathes of the countryside and disrupted transport, communications, power and water supplies.

On the previous Monday, October 11, the FT-SE index had plunged 28 points, largely blamed on worse-than-expected results from Glaxo—profits up only 22 per cent. After a bull market lasting nearly 13 years the City was used to looking for more from a growth stock.

The Tokyo stock market hit a new record on the Wednesday. But that was also the day that the United States announced an August trade deficit of a horrifying \$15.68 billion.

That was greeted by a drop of 20 points in the FT-SE, as investors began to realize the significance of the 200-point fall on Wall Street since the Dow Jones Industrial Average had touched its all-time peak of 2722.42 on August 25. In the days to come, a 20-point one-day fall would be greeted with relief.

New York continued to lead the world's stock markets down, fuelled on the Thursday by an assertion by the US Treasury Secretary James Baker that the dollar would have to fall.

While the City was turned into a ghost town by the aftermath of the Friday storm, Wall Street recorded its first ever fall of more than 100 points. It shed 108.36 to 2246.73. A record 345 million shares were traded.

Panic simmered over the

weekend. The day before the crash *The Sunday Times* warned that the bull market could be about to end. But by then it was too late to do anything about it.

As Britain was going to bed that evening, the Sydney stock market shed millions of dollars. The rest of the world followed: Tokyo, Hong Kong, Singapore, Zurich, Frankfurt, Paris. Then it was time for the London market to open.

British blue-chip shares had been savaged in New York on Friday. And dealers arrived at their desks on Monday to find a backlog of selling orders neglected because of the storm.

Market-makers slashed prices before the telephones began ringing, wiping nearly 137 points off the FT-SE. It closed 249.6 points down, from 2301.9 to 2052.3. Just 24 hours later it was at 1801.6. The index had lost 500.3 points, or 21.7 per cent, in two days.

The persistent suspicion is that the changes wrought by Big Bang may have added to the falls in securities values, and also inhibited a revival of

stock market trading in London took place face to face on the floor of the Stock Exchange.

Of course, jobbers, as market-makers were then known, have always had ways of avoiding business. The main pub in Throgmorton Street is only a couple of minutes' walk from the floor. But when there was a big panic it was not so easy to escape through the crush of milling bodies, all shouting orders to deal.

The end of floor trading was an unintended result of Big Bang. Its main aim was to meet the criticisms of the Office of Fair Trading that the Stock Exchange operated restrictive practices by separating the functions of broker and jobber and barring outsiders from easy entry to the market, and that it ran a price cartel by fixing minimum rates of commissions charged by brokers to investors.

The dispute was heading for court until the Stock Exchange chairman, Sir Nicholas Goodison, struck a deal with Cecil Parkinson, the then Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, soon after the 1983 general election. The Government agreed to exempt the Stock Exchange from the provisions of the Restrictive Practices Act, on condition that the Exchange implemented most of the changes demanded by the OFT before December 31, 1986.

Sir Nicholas asked for longer, and the subsequent scramble vindicated his stand. But the Government wanted the changes in place by the next general election.

So radical were the reforms that they earned the Big Bang nickname. The implications and opportunities would leave no financial firm untouched, sparking an explosion of activity in which an estimated £10 billion changed hands.

Jobbers and brokers needed access to capital to protect themselves against the fierce competition they expected from free entry to the market and a commission price war. Banks wanted brokers and jobbers in order to give an extra service they could tack on to their traditional lending.

The big international players saw the chance to establish themselves in London as part of the move to global securities trading. This huge transfusion, in the midst of a roaring bull market, was to make the City of London the world's richest merry-go-round. Property prices soared. New complexes, such as the Broadgate development next to Liverpool Street station, were built from scratch to house the electronic dealing rooms and their miles of under-floor cable.

Salaries shot up even faster—or, rather, remuneration packages, because booming business meant that a fixed monthly cheque was no longer enough. Bonuses, profit-sharing arrangements, share options and the obligatory Porsche or BMW with parking

had to be included to lure experienced dealers and analysts. The old notion of spending a lifetime with one firm went by the board. Many quadrupled their income with two or three moves in a matter of months. Youngsters still shaking off the dust of a university campus were being paid £20,000 a year.

Although *Parier* water became the standard drink at lunchtime after hours, the City bars resounded with the satisfying pop of champagne corks. The genus yuppie was identified, analysed, categorized, celebrated, satirized and vilified.

Almost lost in the easy money atmosphere was the point of Big Bang, which was after all to help the stock market's customers—governments, quoted companies, investing institutions and the private investor.

Mr. Thatcher's privatization campaign had been in full swing since 1982, but the Big Bang publicity helped the share-buying mood. British Gas, backed by a £10 million advertising campaign, was floated a few weeks later. The newly merged securities houses were hungry for business, to finance those lavish overheads. And they no longer waited for corporate clients to ask for advice. They went knocking on doors.

Tony Berry, chairman of Blue Arrow, admits that he could never have got his record-breaking £837 million rights issue underwritten before Big Bang. "It was a tremendous opportunity," he said, "because it meant we could buy Manpower and become the biggest employment agency group in the world. We would have got there eventually, but it would have taken much longer."

But, even in August 1987, not all the new Blue Arrow shares were taken up. And before his merchant bank, County NatWest, could feed the surplus on to the market they were swamped by the crash.

The big institutions—pension funds, unit trusts and insurance companies—were put under intense pressure to perform, thanks to the computerized analytical techniques, which magnified success and failure. In return, the brokers' scramble for business enabled the institutions to drive down commission rates and demand a superior service.

That left the private investors who were going to be offered a faster, easier, cheaper deal than ever before. But within six months firms such as Kleinwort Benson had scrapped their no-frills telephone dealing service, engulfed by the great tide of paperwork.

Quilter Goodison, Sir Nicholas Goodison's firm, started department store share shops but gave up. Now, with the exception of the banks, most big securities firms are

Continued on facing page

The point of helping customers, was almost lost in the easy money atmosphere.

LOOKING AHEAD

THE STOCKBROKER

Brian Torn, senior private client executive at James Capel: "I'm not a pessimist. I've seen a lot of bear markets. The average one is 18 months to two years. Although the crash was last October, the peak of the market was July, so we have already had 15 months of the bear market. One could well be looking at the second quarter of 1989 to mark the real bottom of the market."

"Interest rates will remain high and will continue to dampen share prices. But there are several things like a new man in the White House and a new Budget—with perhaps a new Chancellor—that could tweak the economy. "In a bear market like this it is the stockbrokers who suffer the most because there is not much business about."

THE FUND MANAGER

James Dawson, chairman of Mercury Fund Managers: "The UK market is a lot cheaper than it was a year ago and that is not just because the nominal value of the shares has gone down. Company profits and dividends have advanced strongly and it looks as though they will advance again next year."

"There are many opportunities overseas to diversify, but for the sterling investor there is always a currency risk. The man in the street may well decide that investing overseas is not worth the risk at present. I do not think we have seen the bottom of the bear market but I hope that within the next six to nine months we will see light at the end of the tunnel. The US dollar has been looking more stable in the last few months and that is good news for the longer term."

THE ECONOMIST

Stephen Lewis, director of economic research at Phillips & Drew: "The major problem is excessive domestic demand. The Chancellor has tried to curb this through higher interest rates but there is no guarantee that rates have reached a level sufficient to stem it. The balance of payments deficit is set to widen further in 1989 and inflation remains a problem. Against this background financial markets will struggle. But by the end of 1989 the economic slow-down is likely to bring more settled conditions."

"In retrospect, the crash did not have the traumatic effects on the economy that some people expected. A year later it looks like little more than an incident. However, it did help to create the current demand problem because interest rates were lowered to check the effects."

INSIDE STORY

... and a year later the stock market crash changed the world. William Kay looks at its causes and continuing repercussions

PHOTOGRAPHS BY PETER ARKELL AND FRANK FOURNIER



Threatened species? In London, in New York, and all over the world yuppies were keeping up to date — and worrying about their Porsches. But did the Big Bang of 1986, and the computerized system it had introduced, aggravate the effects of the crash?

Continued from facing page

closing or transferring their private-client businesses.

What most people had overlooked was that many of the restrictive practices swept away by Big Bang had been introduced in the early years of this century as a crude form of investor protection. Now that protection had to be replaced.

More by luck than judgement, at the time of Big Bang the Government was introducing the Financial Services Act, which decreed a new licensing system backed by codes of conduct. Every securities firm had to have a compliance department, adding red tape to already fat overheads.

The Financial Services Act also underpinned the rising power of the foreign securities houses in London which, by 1985, were carrying out large slabs of stock market business in blue chip equities and gilded stock on the telephone, away from the Stock Exchange.

Admitting foreign firms was perhaps the most difficult part of Big Bang's changes for the

left the floor of the Stock Exchange.

"If there could be a return to floor trading for, say, the top 100 stocks," he said, "there would be more exchange of information, as in Tokyo. At present it is very difficult."

A return to the trading floor would in itself be no guarantee against another crash: the New York Stock Exchange is still largely a floor-based market, and it fell just as sharply as London. Tokyo uses a floor, but it is more actively managed by the authorities and the leading securities houses.

London was hit by two problems which can be traced back to Big Bang: the culture clash of bankers, brokers and market makers, and a generation of dealers who had never experienced anything but bull market conditions.

It is no coincidence that one of the most successful London securities houses in the past two years has been S.G. Warburg Group, a combination of stockbrokers Rowe & Pitman, former jobbers Akroyd & Smithers and the Warburg merchant bank.

Peter Wilmot-Sirwell, former senior partner of Rowe &

From Hong Kong all the way to Paris there was panic as millions were shed

Stock Exchange membership to swallow. The proposed entry fee came down and down as the overseas houses, led by the Americans, bluntly pointed out that they could manage in London without joining the local club.

The Financial Services Act brought the haggling to a head. As each type of investment firm would have to belong to a self-regulatory organization which would supervise its own code of conduct, the foreign houses set up ISRO, the International Securities Regulatory Organization.

That threatened to split London's securities industry. The Stock Exchange capitulated, merged with ISRO, and the chairman of the regulatory body supervising the Exchange is Stanislas Yassukovitch, a White Russian who heads the London office of America's biggest stockbroker, Merrill Lynch. In some ways he is more powerful than the chairman of the Exchange.

But American houses have been the wild cards of the Big Bang City. After the crash they were among the first to lay off staff by the hundred. And, as business has stayed quiet, they have led the withdrawal from unprofitable activities such as pit-edged market-making and handling private clients.

The Europeans and Japanese, by contrast, have been quietly marshalling their forces. And the Japanese are easily the most powerful bloc.

Minoru Mori, managing director and general manager of Daiwa Europe, said: "Since Japan's status as a capital exporting country has stabilized, and the role of Japanese investors is increasing, it is our responsibility to be able to give good information and service in overseas markets. That is the reason we went into gilts market making."

Daiwa have not yet followed their rivals, the mighty Nomura Securities, by moving into equity market making. Mori admitted that one reason for holding back was the volatile behaviour of the London market since trading

Pitman and now joint chairman of Warburg Securities, explained: "What we planned all along was to try to keep the balance in the business, so that if one side went down, another could bail it out."

"We were lucky not to have a cultural problem, in that through sheer geography our broking operation was put in a different building from banking and our chairman, Sir David Scholey, left people to get on with it. Salary and holiday arrangements were brought into line, but by levelling up to the best, my secretary gets seven weeks' holiday now, which is more than I get."

Not many groups can claim such a trouble-free record, not even those, such as BZW and County NatWest, which have come through to stand with Warburg as the strongest of the home-grown contenders for a place in the global securities market.

And the losers? As in Wall Street after it decontrolled commission rates in 1975, the big firms have been gradually squeezing their smaller competitors, many of which were over-reliant on crumbs of business from the institutions.

Those crumbs are vanishing. Some firms will have to make hard decisions this winter.

Wilmot-Sirwell and others believe that the biggest surprise of the past two years has been the cold-shouldering of the private investor.

But Lord Camoys, driving force behind BZW until overwork brought him down last year, argues that it was understandable that the City had to get its wholesaling side in shape before turning to the retail end.

"It will take time to cater properly for the private investor," he said. "What the retail trade needs is volume."

And that, sadly, is not likely to return until the painful memories of last October's crash have been erased.



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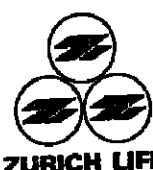
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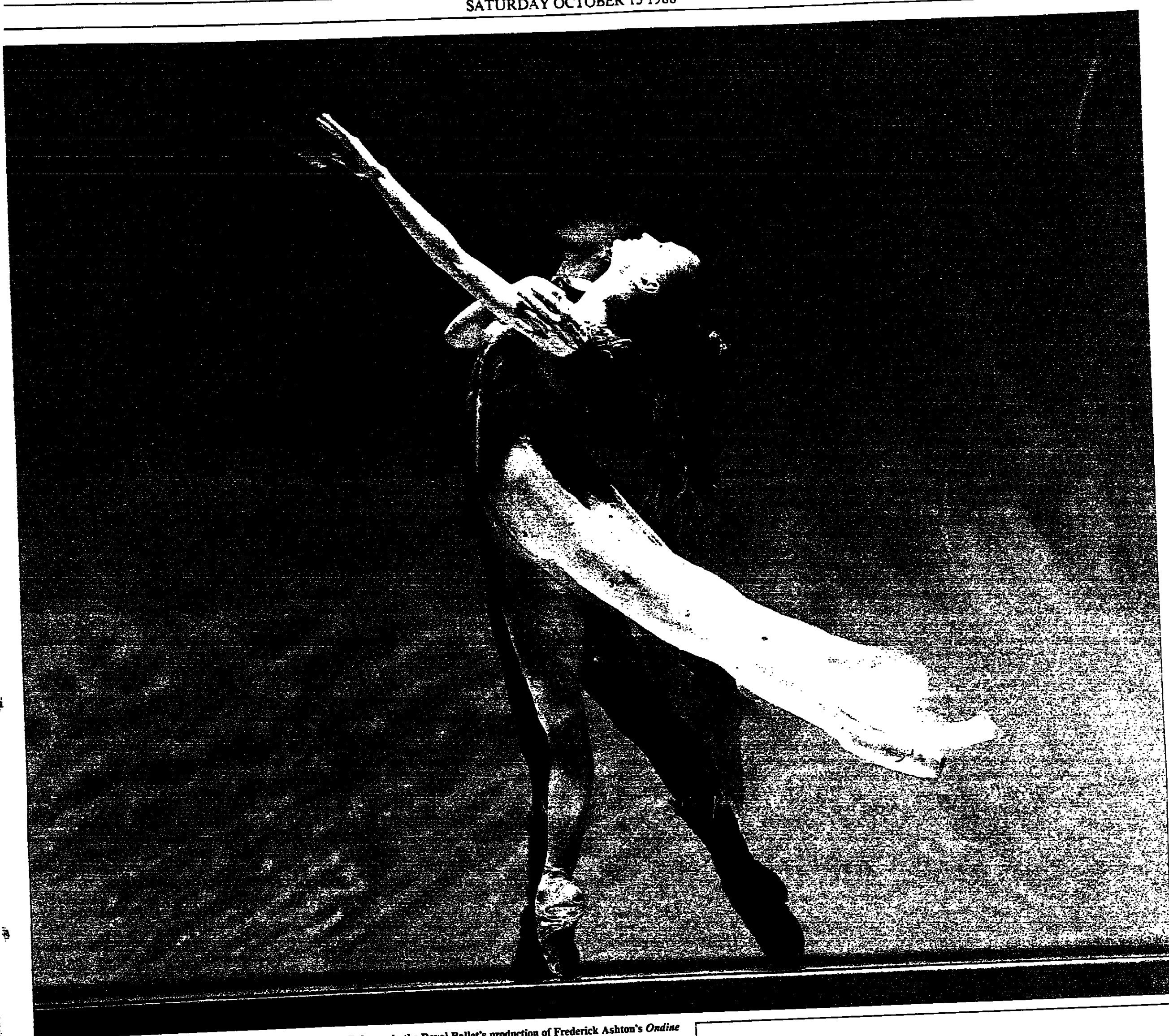
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THE TIMES REVIEW

SECTION 3

SATURDAY OCTOBER 15 1988



Curtain-raiser: Maria Almeida as Ondine and Anthony Dowell as Palemon in the Royal Ballet's production of Frederick Ashton's *Ondine*

Can the company stay on its toes?

The curtain rises tonight on a new season for the Royal Ballet at Covent Garden, and it is bound to be an emotional occasion. The company's director, Anthony Dowell, will be partnering Maria Almeida, the youngest of their ballerinas, in Frederick Ashton's *Ondine*, and it is a safe bet that in happier circumstances the choreographer would have allowed himself to be dragged on stage at the end for one of those proudly reluctant curtain calls which he had made as much a trademark as the "Fred step" with which he signed every piece of his choreography. Instead of that, the evening will be dedicated to his memory.

Ashton's sudden death, although hardly unexpected in a man of 84, will inevitably make many people think hard about the past, present and future of the company he did so much to shape. Dame Ninette de Valois is now the only surviving member of the team who set the Royal Ballet on its course before, during and immediately after the war. With her as director were Ashton as chief choreographer, Constant Lambert as music director and Robert Helpmann as leading dancer (a bigger star, for most of his active performing career, than his young partner Margot Fonteyn). The important thing about that team is that they were all people of keen intelligence and wide culture, and their contributions to the ballet's progress far exceeded the nominal bounds of their duties. There does not seem much evidence nowadays of any equivalent to the way they sparked

In its heyday the Royal Ballet could call on the talents of Ashton, Fonteyn, de Valois, Lambert and Helpmann. If the company still aspires to those standards, John Percival argues, it must look for a more adventurous approach in the season starting tonight

off each other's imaginations and inspired or guided the people around them too.

Reading about the company's growth during the Thirties, or talking to those who experienced it, one can believe that those were exciting times. Some of the ballets premiered then have proved more durable than the Ballets Russes creations which were more fashionable and more highly lauded at the time. Some of the dancers at Sadler's Wells were of exceptional quality. But it would be folly to believe that the general level of dancing or of production came anywhere near today's standards.

So why are many people who used to be staunch supporters of the Royal Ballet now disenchanted with it?

Faces that used to be seen at Covent Garden night after night now appear, if at all, only on

special occasions, when there is a big premiere or a foreign guest star. Too much inbreeding in an audience can be harmful, and everyone welcomes attempts to get newcomers into the house. On the other hand, every company needs a core of informed and passionate supporters who will recognize its achievements and will pull it up when things go wrong.

The Royal Ballet's regular supporters have dwindled in number for two main reasons. One is that they sense a loss of adventurousness in the company; the other, that standards reached a peak, then declined.

Running a big, established organization is inevitably a very different process from that of building it up. It is a lot easier to be excited when everything is new and still growing. Even after the company's move to Covent

Garden in 1946, there were a lot of milestones to be passed. Ashton leapt irrefutably into the first rank of choreographers with *Symphonic Variations* in 1946 (some would say he was there already, but not fully recognized until then). Mounting two of Massine's best-known ballets in 1947 demonstrated that English dancers could hold their own with memories of the Russians. The next year, *Cinderella* led a return to favour of full-evening ballets after four decades when one-act works were generally preferred. There followed, in succession, the conquest of New York: the company's first venture into Balanchine's choreography with *Ballet Imperial*; the development of new choreographers, John Cranko followed by Kenneth MacMillan.

They were heady times, and simultaneously the productions of the old classic ballets were being progressively strengthened. Fonteyn was growing into a ballerina of world class, and a new generation of fine young dancers was being brought on. By the time the Sadler's Wells Ballet celebrated its 25th birthday in 1956, Ashton could create a *piece d'occasion* which featured no fewer than seven ballerinas and surprised everyone by the new-found vigour of its male dancing too. Later that year the company's achievements were recognized and its continuity assured by the grant of its royal charter.

The momentum continued and even accelerated when Rudolf Nureyev arrived as a regular guest from the beginning of 1962, bringing fresh influences and setting

Continued overleaf

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Photographs by Anthony Crickmay

CAN THE COMPANY STAY ON ITS TOES?



Continued from previous page

ting new standards. When de Valois handed over its direction to Ashton in 1963, she left him a company in fine form. In particular, it was during Ashton's first season as director that the corps de ballet was recognized, in *La Bayadere* and a new *Swan Lake*, as being as good as, if not better than, the best elsewhere.

With hindsight, however, one can see that the first patches of rot began to set in then, although hidden by the real achievements and successes of the Ashton era. Ashton enriched the repertoire not only with some of his own new productions but by bringing in two neglected masterpieces of his old mentor, Bronislava Nijinska. He also brought in Antony Tudor, the only English choreographer who could match Ashton himself in quality, thus making honourable amends to a man who had hitherto been neglected by the Royal Ballet.

Besides, Ashton's sense of style, his passion for detail, were reflected in the way the old classics were danced under his regime. On the other hand, he had no interest in administration, nor was he blessed with de Valois's flair for long-term planning. He tended, like almost all choreographers, to be most interested in those dancers who best suited his own creative inspiration, even though he conscientiously fought against that tendency. What was needed was a stronger administrative team in support, but this was acknowledged only to the limited extent of delegating many day-to-day decisions to associate directors.

Ashton's reluctance to become involved in the daily running of the company was present even more acutely in his successor as director, Kenneth MacMillan, appointed in 1970, who more-over tended to concentrate his interest more exclusively on an even smaller group of dancers at any one time. This allowed further weaknesses to develop which were fully recognized only after he had decided to lay down the burden of directing in favour of choreography.

The MacMillan era brought

positive developments too: a considerable strengthening of the male dancing, sometimes to the point of bravado, and the introduction of new choreographers from America (notably Jerome Robbins and Glen Tetley) and Europe (Hans van Manen and John Neumeier). But MacMillan's willingness to experiment, in his own ballets and in the choice of works by others, brought an increased risk of failure which was perhaps a little too often the actual result, and some aspects of the repertoire grew unpopular.

When Norman Morrice took over in 1977, it took him a long time to bring about changes, and things got worse before they began to improve again. His instinct was to try to build talent within the company. He did indeed manage to bring on several young dancers by adopting the far from popular policy of going without any guest stars for a protracted period.

Endeavours on his part to find and encourage new choreographers among the dancers allowed David Bintley to demonstrate a real talent, but nobody else among the young aspirants has yet won wide acceptance. Before Morrice did finally manage to begin pulling things round, the continuing decline in the quality of dancing, together with one or two disastrous new productions, provoked much hostile comment.

This was the situation that Anthony Dowell inherited when he became the Royal Ballet's fifth director two years ago. He declared that his first purpose would be to raise standards of dancing, and to an extent he has succeeded already. The corps de ballet, if not back to the standard of its predecessors 25 years ago, has returned to a presentable level. There are some promising young dancers, and Dowell has not been afraid to bring in guests to set them an example and a challenge.

There is a long way to go yet, however, before the Royal Ballet equals its own highest past standards, or those of its present rivals. On a good night (as for instance when *Ondine* was revived last season after long absence from the stage), it

can look impressive. But the BBC's tribute to Ashton shown earlier this month had some revealing sequences. There was one of Fonteyn as *Ondine*, filmed some 30 years ago. I have no doubt that Maria Almeida tonight, in that role, will stretch her front leg and foot better than Fonteyn did in the film. I shall be very surprised indeed if she shows even half of Fonteyn's

gift for bringing the character to life, and I know which aspect I think the more important.

Unfair, perhaps, to make comparisons with a uniquely great artist, but what about the old shots of Nadia Nerina as Lise in *La Fille mal gardee*? Can any of today's leading women match that level of virtuosity?

One problem is that the

Royal Ballet in recent years has not shown itself very good at developing its young dancers properly. Time and again we have seen real talent on display at the Royal Ballet School's annual performances, but too often that talent seems to dwindle once the dancer has graduated.

Instead of a career being steadily paced according to individual needs, we have too

often suffered the spectacle at Covent Garden of a dancer suddenly becoming "flavour of the month". Having been tried out successfully in one role, they find everything coming their way all at once. If, in consequence, they suffer a reverse, the spotlight just as suddenly switches to the next contestant.

It is likely that Dowell, a man who (unlike any of his predecessors in office) has had a long and successful career as a leading dancer, is aware of this problem. But can he find a solution to it?

The problem of repertoire is no less serious and rather more intractable. By a deliberate policy started in the very early days, the Royal Ballet has always devoted a substantial proportion of its performing time to the 19th century classics — last year it was a little under one-third.

Effectively that has meant just *Giselle* and the three big Tchaikovsky ballets season after season, varied occasionally by one act of *Raymonda* or *La Bayadere*. This season that will be diversified by mounting the whole of *Bayadere*, but for some reason the Royal Ballet has never tackled *Don Quixote* or any of the Bournonville ballets; nor has *Coppelia* been seen at Covent Garden for many years. So a few old ballets occupy a quite disproportionate share of the programmes.

A group of more modern long ballets take up about another third of the programmes, again with the lion's share going to just four works: Ashton's *Fille and Cinderella*, MacMillan's *Manon* and *Romeo*. Everything else has to be fitted into the remaining time, which explains why the Royal Ballet runs a somewhat limited repertoire.

The company has sometimes boasted about the supposed variety of styles it undertakes, but it is a lot less eclectic than, say, London Festival Ballet or the Ballet of the Paris Opera. If you simply count up the premieres over a reasonably long period, the Royal Ballet presents quite a few new productions by various choreographers. Most of these, though, are dropped fairly soon, while a select few are done to death: and the

works by outside choreographers tend to be among those which disappear.

There seems, frankly, little balance to the repertoire. Very few even of the rich legacy of Ashton ballets are actually shown; probably it is easier to do those same few all the time, but it is not the most satisfactory situation for the audience.

For the future, Dowell and Jeremy Isaacs, Covent Garden's new general director, have said that they intend to present more new works. Unless extra performing time can somehow be provided, that must be at the expense of the existing ballets. So even more care will be needed if good old works are not to be lost.

Somewhat, the Royal Ballet needs to make its programmes more adventurous if it is to attract and hold a lively, wide-based audience. New creations have a part to play in this — but only if they are good.

It seems that the intention is to rely mainly on people within the company for the expansion of creative work. But there is a limit to the number of new works that MacMillan and Bintley can do as the officially credited company choreographers, and some of the recent works by aspirants among the dancers have been dire. If there is a moral obligation to let members of the company find out whether or not they have creative skills, there is equally a duty to balance this against the need to offer the public work of good quality.

One solution is to devote a share of the premieres to choreographers who have already proved themselves elsewhere. When asked about this at a recent press conference, Dowell said they had asked some already but to no avail, because people such as Robbins, Jiri Kylian and Neumeier have their own companies and are busy with them. However, Neumeier does intend to make time to create a work for London Festival Ballet in 1990; could it be that any reluctance to do the same for Covent Garden arises from his treatment before, when he made a new ballet for them and it was

given exactly four performances?

In any event, the best time to start a relationship with Kylian or Neumeier (both of them Royal Ballet School graduates) would have been as soon as they had proved their promise, years ago; then they would doubtless have been prepared to return occasionally, as they have done to Stuttgart, which gave them their first chances. To ask them now, when their reputations are made and others are clamouring for them, is too late. There would be more point if the Royal Ballet instead went out to look for new talent and signed it up quickly, before everyone else discovered it. That could do far more to arouse interest, especially among the young.

As ballet companies go, the Royal Ballet (founded in 1931) is a mere strapping compared with those in Leningrad or Paris, Moscow, Copenhagen or Stockholm, all of which date back to the 18th century. Yet it has a longer history of continuous professional performance than any British theatre company other than ENO and the RSC, and it pre-dates any of the American ballet companies. Its founders did an amazingly good job during its first 40 years; their successors have not managed so well during the company's fifth and sixth decades. It no longer commands the universal respect it once did abroad — the days are past when several leading critics from the Continent automatically attended its major premieres. Even so, the strength of its school, its existing repertoire and its reputation ensure that it can maintain an important place among the world's companies, if not so high as it once held.

It could just coast along with no greater risk than that of stagnation. It seems, happily, that Dowell and his team do not want that. The question is whether they have the courage, the imagination and the necessary support to win back the Royal Ballet's once unchallenged pre-eminence.

● A Portrait of The Royal Ballet, photographed by Anthony Cridanay, is published by Michael O'Mara Books next week (£12.95).



Stalwarts of the Royal Ballet: above, from left, soloists Gail Tophouse, Genesis Rosato and Deborah Bull; top left, Fiona Chadwick, principal dancer, as Princess Aurora in *Sleeping Beauty*

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ON THE ROAD

Amnesty International's world tour, 'Human Rights Now!', flies into Harare; 20,000 South Africans cross the border to join in

Anybody understand rock'n'roll?

NEAL PRESTON



Born in the USA, but going down a storm in Zimbabwe: Bruce Springsteen jerks gawkily on to the stage. The front of the audience is dominated by South Africans and their girls, which is a problem when Bruce wants a dance

A rented pick-up truck, full of raw, white South African youth, wobbles and judders impatiently in the outside lane. They want to cut in front of my taxi to avoid having to turn right.

"Hey, mister, if you smoke Camels?" one cries to my driver, a small, amiable Zimbabwean. They want to buy a lane-change with a cigarette. The driver waves the offer aside, laughs at them but lets them in. They roar on ahead, whooping gleefully.

Red dust swirls about us as we near the National Stadium, a couple of miles outside Harare. The clean, wide streets in a violent haze of jacaranda blossom have given way to blocked roads and choking dust. Traffic jams are rare in the town but, today, 70,000 people are converging on this grounded concrete flying saucer. It is 3.30pm and they are mostly whites. Zimbabwe has issued an estimated 20,000 visas to South Africans and all night they have been crossing the border at Beitbridge, 500 kilometres south.

Their cars fill the stadium parks and their bright, expensive, casual clothes and aerobic limbs clash poignantly with the standard Zimbabwean look - shabby and drab. But the stadium forecourt is still a building site and, as we struggle up the long slope, the red dust clouds and settles, toning everybody down to a single rusty hue.

Inside, perhaps 80 per cent of the slowly growing crowd is white. They mill about on the boards laid over the athletic track and sit waving the odd banner or flag in the bare concrete stands. The Chinese built this stadium with no concessions to comfort - even the lavatories are said to be too small for Zimbabwe's huge Shona tribesmen.

"The big thing about apartheid," says one white Zimbabwean, watching the crowd of roaring, tanned jocks crowding towards the stage, "is that it works. This will be the first time a lot of those guys have been so close to so many blacks."

The occasion is a rock concert, a massively amplified eight hours of melodrama, almost unknown because unaffordable in black Africa. Youssou N'Dour, Tracy Chapman, Peter Gabriel, Sting and Bruce Springsteen, as well as a few local bands, are going to play and sing to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, under the banner of Amnesty International and with the financial support of Reebok. Harare is their 16th date on a world tour called "Human Rights Now!" and, for everybody concerned, it is the most important and the most fraught.

"Welcome to the Front Line," Dr Mahosa, the president of the Arts Council, had said at the Press conference the day before. South Africa - rich, armed and effective - dominates this region. Her economy and her army dwarf those of her neighbours, while

her internal policies inspire a unifying cause behind which everybody can stand.

And, in some cases, hide. For it was not long ago that Zimbabwe itself was condemned by Amnesty. Political opponents of Robert Mugabe's regime had been massacred and imprisoned. "Killed, tortured... all the basic stuff," as Mary Daly, one of the tour organizers, put it.

At the Press conference, those days are suddenly brought back when a woman from the Ministry of Information, the ubiquitous Mrs Knutt, threatens to have one journalist arrested. He had covered the massacres in Matabeleland and, as a result, was refused official Press accreditation. He was breaking the law by just being at the conference.

But, for Amnesty, things have been improving in Zimbabwe. There were no reports of police torture in 1987, although the Central Intelligence Organization was under suspicion. Overall, however, the human rights heat was off Mugabe and the rock tour was welcomed as a gesture against Pretoria - Amnesty and the stars were happy to go along with this.

It turned out to be not quite so easy. The local promoter was a man called Neil Dunn, and he had walked straight into a row involving his sound equipment - which was said to come from South Africa.

'It's very hard, when you get large numbers of people coming in, to separate sincerity from self-interest'

The stars had heard about this during their stay in India and protested. Rapid redeployments were made.

Finally, in a room in Harare's Meikles Hotel, Jack Healey, head of American Amnesty and mastermind of the entire tour, was given the respectable story by Dunn and Tabo Nteli, a Lesotho businessman. Both were sweating and tense: the local realities of life had come up against the bland idealism of the rich. They claimed the equipment to be used was clean. It came from America and had been used for the Pope's visit to Lesotho and then trucked north to Harare.

Nobody believed this. But Healey shrugged - he took the view that Amnesty had done all it could and, anyway, almost every bit of machinery in Zimbabwe had South African parts. Disentangling the local economy from Pretoria was hopeless.

"If this gear does come from South Africa," Gabriel shouted during his set, "let's

BRYAN APPELYARD MEETS THE AMNESTY TOUR PARTY

was on the podium. Yards from the mysteriously press-accredited teenage groupies, the eight Government officials plus the real reporters and cameramen, was Bruce Springsteen himself. He is, perhaps, among the half-dozen most famous people on the planet and he is not known for accepting this kind of exposure alongside others.

In fact, he was drawn in at the last minute. Previously he had been only marginally associated with the big rock'n'roll causes of the Eighties. There had been a "No Nukes" rally at Madison Square

Garden a few years ago, and Bob Geldof had wanted him for Live Aid but, on meeting him, had been too embarrassed to ask because of some unflattering remarks he had made about Springsteen in the past. This time, with three months to go before the start of the Human Rights Now! tour, Bill Graham, the tour promoter, had announced there were not enough big acts to ensure a sell-out.

Gabriel was dispatched to recruit Springsteen and, after receiving a 40-minute lecture on Amnesty from Jack Healey, he agreed. After that, every band in the world wanted to join the tour. But it

sing even louder so they can hear us!" A sea of white arms, by then more diluted with black, rose in clenched-fist approval.

The really big news, though, was that there he was on the podium. Yards from the mysteriously press-accredited teenage groupies, the eight Government officials plus the real reporters and cameramen, was Bruce Springsteen himself. He is, perhaps, among the half-dozen most famous people on the planet and he is not known for accepting this kind of exposure alongside others.

In fact, he was drawn in at the last minute. Previously he had been only marginally associated with the big rock'n'roll causes of the Eighties. There had been a "No Nukes" rally at Madison Square

Garden a few years ago, and Bob Geldof had wanted him for Live Aid but, on meeting him, had been too embarrassed to ask because of some unflattering remarks he had made about Springsteen in the past. This time, with three months to go before the start of the Human Rights Now! tour, Bill Graham, the tour promoter, had announced there were not enough big acts to ensure a sell-out.

Gabriel was dispatched to recruit Springsteen and, after receiving a 40-minute lecture on Amnesty from Jack Healey, he agreed. After that, every band in the world wanted to join the tour. But it

sing even louder so they can hear us!" A sea of white arms, by then more diluted with black, rose in clenched-fist approval.

The stars had heard about this during their stay in India and protested. Rapid redeployments were made.

Finally, in a room in Harare's Meikles Hotel, Jack Healey, head of American Amnesty and mastermind of the entire tour, was given the respectable story by Dunn and Tabo Nteli, a Lesotho businessman. Both were sweating and tense: the local realities of life had come up against the bland idealism of the rich. They claimed the equipment to be used was clean. It came from America and had been used for the Pope's visit to Lesotho and then trucked north to Harare.

Nobody believed this. But Healey shrugged - he took the view that Amnesty had done all it could and, anyway, almost every bit of machinery in Zimbabwe had South African parts. Disentangling the local economy from Pretoria was hopeless.

"If this gear does come from South Africa," Gabriel shouted during his set, "let's

report is out. "Ugly picture of worldwide human rights violations" says the Press release, and inside we find Britain coming off a good deal worse than Zimbabwe. Franca Sciuto, the world chairman, is travelling with the tour. But Ian Martin, the secretary general, and several others have

all arrived from London. Suited and dapper, their civil service air contrasts comically with the stars and the numberless roadies in Bermuda shorts. That is part of the point, of course. With this tour Amnesty is taking on a bigger, flashier identity.

"Our main work must remain sober and diplomatic for our approaches to governments," Martin says, "but this will help to raise awareness. An Amnesty rock tour in America increased our membership by 100,000."

Healey points out that more than half the world's population is poor and under 25. They need to be reached. With Human Rights Now!, Amnesty International has found a means of transmitting its message in rock music. "It's the first universal language," Gabriel says. "Live Aid was obviously pivotal - it showed musicians just how effective they could be."

In addition, the idea of organized causes instead of the vague liberationist ideals of the Sixties came along at a time when the leaders in the rock business had become jaded and disgusted with their role. "Rock is not enough for me," Sting says with a degree of anguish. "I'm 37 years old, I need to have four children. I need to be connected with life somehow. Often the reward for success in this field is that you get shoved away into a sort of limbo where everybody looks after you and they feed you drugs and you get fat and old and stupid very quickly. The alternative is to be involved in something. On this tour you meet former prisoners of conscience and politicians, you feel connected somehow. And otherwise, what am I going to write about? How good I am in bed? How big my car is?"

But it is not just that the conventions of rock'n'roll content - loving, surfing and letting the good times roll - were not enough, it was also that the music had stood still. "Rock'n'roll is dead. Rock'n'roll is over. It's the way of all stuff - it has its heyday and then dies. Now it only feeds on itself. Alying rock'n'roll with international causes may be a way of infusing life into it."

The tour's aim is to lose as little money as possible. The dates in rich countries are supposed to pay for dates like Harare. In fact it looks as though Reebok, the backers, will be paying out in the region of \$7 million in subsidy on top of the dozens of pairs of shoes they have given to everybody on the tour.

The concert goes well. After six o'clock the stadium starts filling up as people get away from work. The local bands with their jangling, repetitive African sounds go down well

and then, as darkness falls, the headliners appear together to sing Bob Marley's song demanding that we stand up for our rights and don't give up the fight. The whites at the front at first fail to realize that Springsteen is on stage, but they surge forward with a howl when they do.

Gabriel and N'Dour start with an elaborate and theatrical set that culminates in Gabriel singing his song "Biko", banned in South Africa. But, tonight, in an illegal deal with SA's Capital Radio, it is transmitted into the Republic. Chapman plays briefly and ineffectively. The Africans love her but the crowd is too noisy and she lacks the necessary talent to quell their roaring. Sting is loud and rocking but desperately cerebral and then, finally, Springsteen jerks gawkily on to the stage and begins screaming that he was "Born in the USA". All have made little speeches, but it is Springsteen who milks the

issue for all it is worth. With a rhythm section background he launches into a long homily about Vietnam, small towns, peace and war - again he could be running for president - and then finally dives into the song "War". Like Gabriel's "Biko", both the speech

is dominated by the South Africans and their girls. Finally one is found, hoisted over the photographer's pit and is famous for two minutes.

Then, infuriatingly, at midnight with Springsteen just about on his second wind, the

bound South Africans - "We don't want that shit!" - for the sad truth is that the music and its thrills are all too disconnected from the message for the good livers who crossed at Beitbridge.

Technology has given the wealth-creating, restless West the ability to sell records, images and ideas to the poor, passive Third World. The ideas are sold because we feel we must. Just as we cannot stand by and watch primitive people die for lack of penicillin, so we find we cannot allow petty dictators to torture, imprison and kill their people. With a simple, translatable art form we penetrate their minds, hoping to plant some humanitarian seed. It is not far from the old colonial mechanism of economic domination followed by spiritual mission. And the old missionaries were probably just as certain of the irrefutable logic of their cause as are the new rock stars.

Black schoolchildren have been handing out the declaration at the gates. Some endure insults from the homeward-

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'Rock'n'roll is dead. Alying rock'n'roll with these international causes may be a way of infusing life into it'

and the song were illegally broadcast in the Republic.

With "Dancing in the Dark", Springsteen invariably takes a girl from the audience to dance with him on stage. But this time something appears to go wrong. He cannot seem to find one. There are concerned mutterings backstage. Then we realize he can't find a black girl. The front row

stadium lights are turned on and thousands start leaving. Springsteen desperately winds up the power - "Is there anybody still alive out there?" he shouts - but the tension has gone and the show peters out.

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THE SHROUD OF TURIN

How an age of mystery ended

CHRIS HARRIS

The announcement that the Shroud of Turin was woven from flax gathered between 1260 and 1390 has ended speculation. David Sox, who initiated attempts to date the shroud by the latest carbon-dating techniques, tells the story of the search for the truth

At 4.30 in the morning of April 21 this year, a security guard in Turin's Royal Palace was startled to discover lights in the nearby Royal Chapel of the Holy Shroud. When he entered the chapel he saw two overweight canons squatting on the altar of the relic. The glass panel before the reliquary had been removed, and two doors of an iron cage swung open, revealing a smaller inner cage. The two inserted three old keys into three different locks — two at the ends, one in the middle. In times past, the keys symbolized those in charge of the shroud: the King of Italy, the Archbishop of Turin and the chapel canons.

The priests reached into the inner cage and pulled out the silvered wooden reliquary, tied with red silk ribbons, from a large box. It was carried down dark marble stairs to the cathedral sacristy.

The seals of the last exposition (a private one for John Paul II in 1980) were broken and the shroud, wrapped in red silk, was removed. Wearing white gloves, the canons unfolded and straightened it out on a table covered in aluminium foil.

The Turin shroud had come to its final test: carbon dating. It had taken a decade of convoluted and controversial effort, and the test, according to one scientist, represented "the most significant interaction of the Church and science since Galileo".

The relic is a strip of linen 14ft long and 3ft wide, with the front and back images of a naked, crucified man, 5ft 10in tall, in faint straw yellow, with a variety of red markings. Its first known appearance dates from a time when relic-making was rife — in the 1350s in France, in the possession of Geoffrey de Charny, Lord of Lirey. He placed it in a small wooden church he had built; the secret of its provenance died with him at the Battle of Poitiers.

De Charny's granddaughter, Marguerite, surrendered the shroud to Louis, Duke of Savoy, in 1453. One account describes how, while returning to Burgundy, her relic-bearing mule stopped at the gate of Chambéry and refused to budge. The shroud became the palladium of the House of Savoy; according to Saint Francis of Sales, it was "the buckler of our country". So it remained until 1983, when the last King of Italy, Umberto II, died. He willed the relic to the Vatican.

In 1932 the shroud was almost destroyed in a fire in Chambéry. The fire broke out in the sacristy of the Sainte Chapelle, and before the relic was rushed to safety, drops of molten silver from its reliquary fell on the cloth and

charred some of the corners of the folds. Water used to put out the flames left large unsightly stains, and patches made by nuns are the first thing noted on the cloth today.

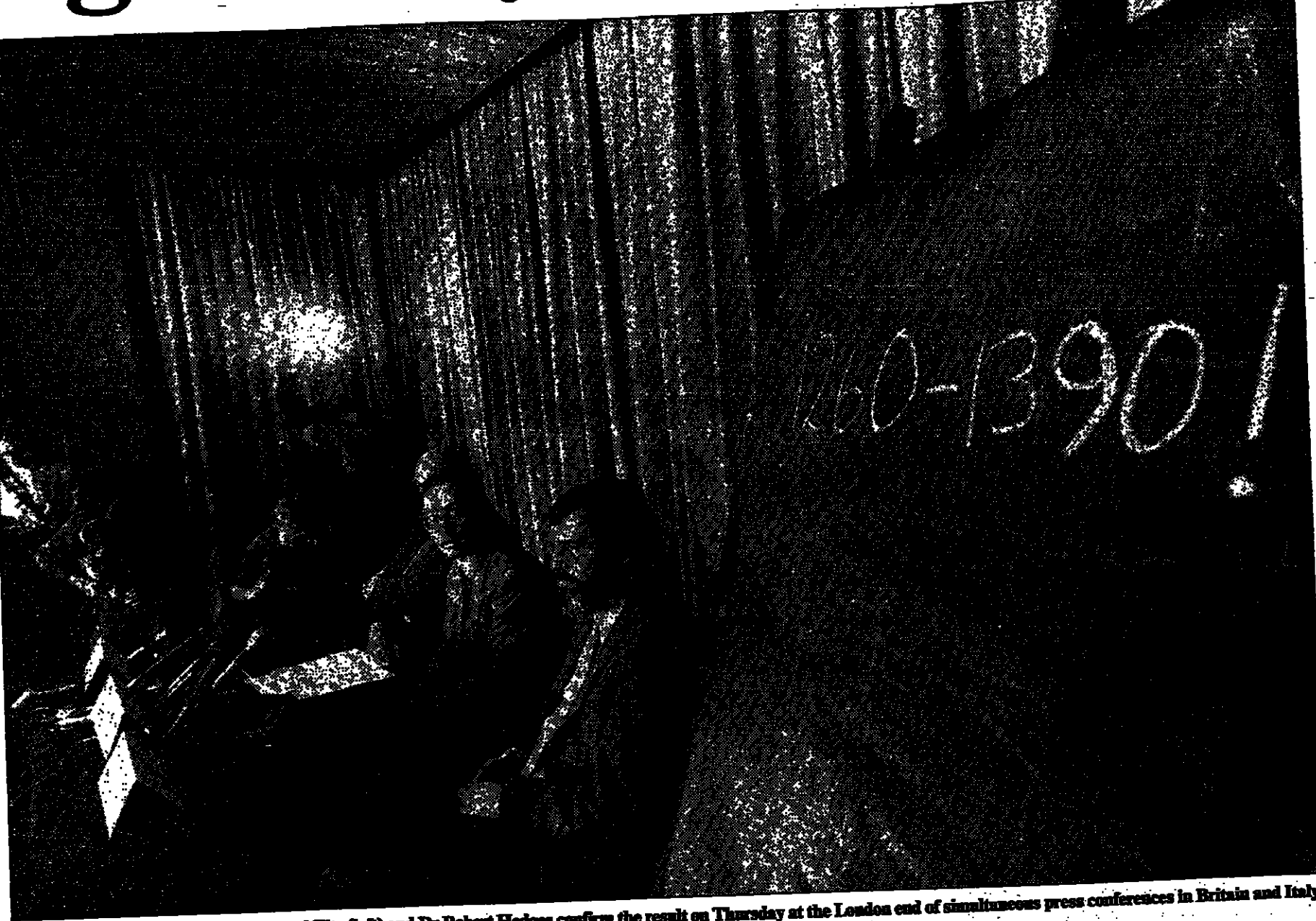
Hoping to concentrate the loyalty of his people to the new capital of his domains, the Duke of Savoy, Emmanuel Philibert, took the relic to Turin in 1578. Over the next three and a half centuries, the shroud was brought out for veneration in connection with important events in the House of Savoy.

In 1898, when 800,000 people came to view the relic as Italians celebrated the 50th anniversary of the kingdom, an amateur photographer, Secondo Pia, decided to take pictures of the shroud. His first attempt was a disaster; heat from the necessary floodlights broke the glass screens. Three days later Pia tried again and the result almost made him drop the dripping negative plate. There was a clarity and depth in the image never before seen. Pia was looking at a clear positive image. Highlights and shadows were reversed from those on the cloth, and were far more lifelike and realistic.

Not everyone was impressed, though. Canon Ulysse Chevalier, called by some "the most learned man in France", began to search for historical records concerning the cloth, and came up with 50 which he said refuted the shroud's authenticity. Only one was really significant. In the National Library of Paris he found a strongly worded denunciation by Peter d'Arcis, Bishop of Troyes, who complained to the Avignon Pope that the relic was "cunningly painted... the truth of being attested by the artist who painted it". The Pope, Clement VII, decreed that when the shroud was shown to the faithful, it should clearly be called "a likeness or representation".

Chevalier's find was a death-blow to the shroud's authenticity, and 30 years later the English Jesuit, Herbert Thurston, followed Chevalier's line: his dismissive article in the semi-official *Catholic Encyclopedia* was not changed until 1957.

Ironically, it was a couple of agnostic scientists who came to the defence of the shroud. The same year that Chevalier's broadside appeared, a Sorbonne professor, Yves Delage, showed Pia's photographs to Paul Vignon, a younger scientist. Vignon developed a theory that the stains were created by "vapourgraphy": a reaction of the feverish perspiration of Jesus's body in the tomb with the aloes sprinkled on the burial linen. At enormous risk to his reputation,



Making a date with science: Dr Michael Tite (left) and Dr Robert Hedges confirm the result on Thursday at the London end of simultaneous press conferences in Britain and Italy

Delage presented a paper to the French Academy which concluded: "The man of the shroud was the Christ."

In 1931 the shroud was photographed again, and the results not only confirmed Pia's 1898 pictures, but showed even greater detail. After the Second World War, the relic became a popular object of scientific study and religious devotion in the United States. In 1951 the Holy Shroud Guild was founded in New York, and in the 1970s the guild supplied two young US Air Force captains, John Jackson and Eric Jumper, with the 1931 photographs.

Now the shroud entered the space age, as the two captains gathered an odd collection of other military scientists to found the Shroud of Turin Research Project. STURP included scientists from the USAF weapons laboratory, NASA's jet propulsion laboratory, and the Los Alamos nuclear laboratory. Image enhancement and examinations of "cloth body distance" appeared to indicate to STURP that a "scorch-like process" was the most likely explanation for the non-penetrating images on the shroud. A short burst of radiation was suggested. It was not long until the obvious conclusion was reached by some: radiant heat from Jesus's resurrecting body had created the strange images.

In Bristol, a former journalist, Ian Wilson, created a scenario for the relic's missing years by linking the shroud to the Edessa Mandylion, an ancient icon. The British Society for the Turin Shroud was founded, and a film based on Wilson's theory, *The Silent Witness*, was released.

An examination of the shroud was made in 1973, but the results were largely inconclusive. No real blood could be detected, and one art expert suggested that Leonardo da Vinci or someone of his school might have created the image. Gilbert Raes, a Belgian textile expert, investigated two small samples and could note only that the weave was a herringbone twill of indeterminate date.

In 1978 the Turin authorities allowed STURP to perform a large battery of tests following a six-week public showing of the relic to mark the 400th anniversary of its arrival in Turin. After three and a half million people had viewed the cloth, STURP turned on the big guns. Using a system of analysis adopted for the Apollo programme, it spent "between 100,000 and 150,000 scientific man-hours" but came up with very little, although two STURP scientists suggested they had found evidence of real blood in the samples.

Carbon dating was suggested as the obvious test for the shroud soon after its creator, the Nobel Prize winner Willard Libby, performed the test on the linen wrappings of the Dead Sea Scrolls in 1950. The Turin authorities, though, were reluctant to part with the necessary handkerchief-size sample required for Libby's original test. Later they ruled against the test even though the sample size had been greatly reduced. All sorts of excuses were given — from Turin's pollution to the supposed unreliability of carbon dating.

Apparently in 1961 Libby asked to test the shroud and kept up a lengthy correspondence about it for years. In 1976, when I was General Secretary of the British Society for the Turin Shroud, Walter McCrone, a Chicago microchemist, and I went to Belgium to look at the samples which had been removed for textile analysis in 1973. They were more than adequate for testing, but Turin said no. Another at-

tempt was made the next year in Geneva, when McCrone and a Vatican shroud enthusiast met with the owner of the relic, ex-King Umberto II. The King gave his approval, but again Turin turned it down.

Then, later in 1977, I read an article in *Time* magazine about a new method of carbon dating which had reduced the required sample size from a few grams to a few milligrams: accelerator mass spectrometry (AMS). I wrote to one of the pioneers of the new method, Harry Gove of the University of Rochester (New York), beginning his 10-year involvement with the shroud.

Gove was the natural leader of the scientists who were interested in performing the test. In 1982 at an archaeological symposium at Bradford, representatives of six laboratories met, and planned an inter-laboratory comparison under the supervision of the British Museum. Three labs were from the US — Rochester, Brookhaven and Arizona; two were from England — Harwell and Oxford; the sixth was ETH of Zurich. The results, announced in 1985, made it clear that the scientists were quite ready to take on the shroud.

At Trondheim, the six agreed on a protocol for the future test. The British Museum would be the co-ordinating institution and "guarantor" of the results. The museum

The Pontifical Academy suggested a workshop on the possible test, which took place in October 1986. By the time of the workshop there was a seventh lab: the later addition was that at Gif-sur-Yvette near Paris. A couple of STURP men were also invited, and it did not take long for the sparks to fly at the workshop. At the outset, Gonella made it clear that only two or three labs were needed and there was no way that seven were going to receive samples from the cloth.

Eventually the scientists reached an agreement similar to the previous Trondheim protocol, except that STURP was no longer involved. The Colonnati Meteorological Institute of Turin was to be an additional analysing institution with the British Museum. Samples would be taken from the shroud by May 1987 and the final results announced by Easter the following year. A full set in and it was soon apparent Gonella had taken the agreement as only a suggestion.

May 1987 came and went, but no samples were removed. Then, on October 10, 1987, a letter was sent to the seven labs from the Archbishop of Turin. Three labs had been chosen — Arizona, Oxford and Zurich. There were protests at the limitation. Gonella, though, was unmoved.



In Turin, Cardinal Ballestrero and Professor Gonella give the verdict on the flax in the shroud (right)

would also supply two additional samples of known age. As with the inter-laboratory comparison, the six would not know which sample was which, and the results would be sent by the British Museum to the Vatican and the Archbishop of Turin who would make them public. The Pontifical Academy of Sciences was suggested as the logical overseer of the delicate negotiations which would soon ensue.

It all looked very good. There was a major problem, however: just who was in charge? The shroud has always been an object of conflicting and competing interests. STURP was jealous of keeping control over any future testing of the relic. The International Centre of Study of the Shroud in Turin had always opposed any carbon dating tests, and there were a number of shroud societies around the world with a variety of particular concerns.

The Pope is the shroud's owner, and the Archbishop of Turin its custodian. The latter appointed Luigi Gonella of the Turin Polytechnic as his scientific advisor, and Gonella was determined nothing would be done which did not have his personal stamp of approval. Very early in the manoeuvres, Gonella took a dislike to Gove's rather brusque manner. It was guaranteed to be a bumpy ride.

At Oxford's Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art, Edward Hall and Robert Hedges had first greeted the prospect of the test with very different reactions. When Gove first mentioned dating the shroud to Hall, he was fascinated; not so Hedges, who was appalled at the thought of scientists getting involved in anything as demeaning as a religious relic.

Hall and Hedges are from a vanishing breed of "gentleman-scientists"; Douglas Donahue and Paul Damon of the University of Arizona are of the new order. Donahue, a conservative and a Catholic, appears more a businessman than a scientist; Damon's white hair and beard make him look like one of the pioneers who built Tucson out of the desert. The third laboratory was Willy Wolfl's AMS facility at the Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich.

Now Gonella had to pick up the pieces and get things moving again. On January 22 this year, he met with representatives of the three labs at the British Museum. They would get more sample material than they would have done if all seven had been involved, and they would also be present at the sample-taking.

Postponed due to the presence in Turin of a large number of media people watching Ian Botham complete his 500-mile trek across the Alps, the sample-taking was conducted on April 21.

With his bare hands, Giovanni Riggi, an Italian member of STURP, cut away a strip 7cm long by 1cm wide near where samples had been taken 15 years earlier.

The sample was divided into thirds, each wrapped in aluminium foil and placed with the two other samples prepared by the British Museum. Looking a little like a plate of hors-d'oeuvres, the samples were set before the Archbishop by Riggi and tags were attached to the sealed containers. Riggi sealed each tag with red wax which was embossed with the archiepiscopal seal of Turin. The Cardinal gave each lab a letter to enable the containers to pass through customs without any difficulty. The representatives returned home. When Donahue got back to the United States, he was asked if he had anything to declare. Unruffled he replied: "A bottle of gin, some chocolates and a sample from the Turin shroud."

Arizona was the first lab to perform the test, and knew the results the first week of May. Harry Gove was invited to be present for the testing, which infuriated Gonella. It had not taken Arizona long to realize which sample was from the shroud, as it contained a red silk thread and some blue fibrils. The former was from the material which covers the relic in the reliquary, the latter from the backing cloth.



At 9.50am on May 6, the results were coming out. The night before, Damon had told Gove that he would not be surprised to see the analysis yield a date around the fourth or fifth century, because after that time crucifixion was banned and a forger would not have known of the details so accurately portrayed on the shroud. Gove and his assistant, Shirley Brignall, had a bet: Gove said 1,000 years, she said 2,000. Whoever lost was to buy the other a pair of cowboy boots.

The calculations were produced on the computer, and displayed on the screen. The date it showed would be when the flax used for the linen fabric was harvested. The figures appeared. Gove would be taking home a new pair of cowboy boots.

As he began the tests in Zurich 20 days later, Willy Wolfl was nervous — a year earlier, his lab had tested what were reputed to be the remains of the third-century Zurich martyrs, Saints Felix and Regula, who had been decapitated by Emperor Decius. Wolfl found the bones were old — but too old: they were dated to 50BC, thus more likely to be Celtic or early Roman remains. But he was in no hurry; he had employed a young American scientist, Susan Trumbone, to prepare the sample. Trumbone wanted no indication as to which sample was which, but when the BBC was in Zurich filming a *Time* magazine programme on the testing, it became obvious.

As someone remarked: "All you'd need are the photographs of the shroud from *National Geographic*."

The three samples were divided into halves, and one of each of the halves was further divided into thirds. One third of each half-sample faced fairly strong solution, another a mild solution and the remainder was only cleaned ultrasonically. Sometimes solutions have been so strong as to dissolve — fragile — textiles like mummy cloth. Ultrasonic cleaning shakes loose fungi, pollen, soil and ash which may post-date the sample. All that was needed for the ultimate test was the cellulose, the fine espy fibres of the flax, but the preparer did not want to destroy the fibres in the process.

That came later. The sample was reduced to carbon dioxide and then to graphite — the stuff of which pencil leads are made. When the first test results came in, they mirrored the findings from Arizona.

On July 5, someone circulated a rumour that Oxford had proved the shroud to be a fake. The Associated Press agency picked the story up and it made headlines around the world, but the rumour-monger was clearly not in the know: Oxford had been waiting for the installation of new equipment, and was not to begin its tests until a week later. But when the tests were completed, the results matched those in Arizona and Zurich.

Then came the delay. The Colonnati Meteorological Laboratory in Turin was on holiday for the whole of August. It was not until two or three weeks ago that they were able to compare their set of collated results with those compiled by the British Museum. The Pope was told of the ultimate findings on September 30. Rumours mounted, and perhaps contributed to softening the disappointment of the faithful when Cardinal Anastasio Ballestrero, the Archbishop of Turin, made the public announcement on Thursday that ascribed the flax to a date between 1260 and 1390, with a probability factor of 95 per cent.

The shroud has kept some of its secrets. It must be remembered that the date is for the cloth itself — there is still no clear idea when, how or why the image was created. There will be those who say the shroud should have been left alone in the accumulated reverence given it by the faithful. After the tests of 1973 — and especially those of 1978 — however, it was too late for that.

A London vicar once approached me after reading all the material which proclaimed the shroud's authenticity and said he still found it hard to believe it was genuine. "God doesn't operate this way, does He?" he asked. No, He doesn't.

● The author is an American Episcopal clergyman resident in Britain.

A former general secretary of the British Society for the Turin Shroud, his book *The Shroud Unmasked* was published by Marshall Pickering this week.

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THE ARTS

TELEVISION

Boring pretence

BBC Television Centre has long been one of the world capitals of pascency. Objectively, this can be confirmed by the fact that it is preponderantly staffed by educated drones who live in expensive houses, vote Labour and dress down in order to suck up to the lower classes.

None of this would matter if the prevailing climate (what they would call "the ethos") did not foster programmes as wretched as last night's *Omnibus* (BBC1), which purported to wrap up the subject of the Soviet Union's most celebrated film-maker, Sergei Mikhailovich Eisenstein.

Eisenstein! Can there ever have been such a rallying cry for pretentious dimwits? The name works on these levels: it is undeniably foreign and therefore worthy of serious brow-furrowing; a conscious effort is required to remember that his own did not establish the General Theory of Relativity; somewhere in its syllables lie ripples of revolutionary splendour, which is always held to be a jolly good thing. The fact that its owner's father was of German-Jewish extraction — which casts a wintry light on the anti-Semitism of *Alexander Nevsky* — was just one of the salient pieces of information that got lost on the floor of the editing suite.

The standard procedure in the home of intellectual laziness, London W12, is to cram as many arts bores in front of the camera as possible. One of these, a bearded gentleman from the BFI, early revealed that Eisenstein's image has been too much "romanticized", and adduced as counter-evidence the fact that he read Agatha Christie. Goodness.

If one talking head had the temerity to invoke the name of Andrei Bely ("Andrew White", author of *Petersburg*), someone somewhere might have taken the trouble to advert to Yevgeny Zamiatin, whose 1920 novel, *We*, employed precisely the device of imaginative close-up with which Eisenstein made his name five years later in *Potemkin*. These things are not details, they are of the essence.

The purpose of this exercise seems to have been to publicize an exhibition of the director's "drawings" (sic), which reveal a line as firm and clean as that of the young Evelyn Waugh. The real pity is that the subject of Eisenstein will now be dead, in television terms, for years to come.

Martin Cropper

CONCERT

Not of his time

Philharmonia/
Norrington
Festival Hall

It is ironic, but unavoidable that the more successful Roger Norrington becomes with his period-instrument performances of early 19th-century repertoire, the less successful his concerts with "modern" symphony orchestras will seem. If the conductor himself lacks the conviction that he is performing the music in the best possible way, the listeners will sense the unease sooner or later. Then everyone goes home feeling dissatisfied with the compromise.

More important, Norrington's best quality in period-instrument performances — his direct, literal, unfudging approach to the early Romantics, which allows the ear to savour the naked tang of the original sonorities with little "interpretative" gloss intervening — sounds desperately naive and unsuitable at times when transferred to the much plusher textures of the Symphony Orchestra.

That is what made this performance of Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique* such an uneven experience. The grotesque elements of the last two movements were emphasized well enough; Norrington slowed the pace and really relished the nastier sonic properties of high clarinets and the rasping bass trombone. But the changing moods of the First Movement were colluded together with matter-of-fact abruptness, and a similar lack of grace and nuance made the Waltz sound prosaic.

Norrington's case was not helped by some occasional rough moments among the fiddlers in their darning, exposed lines, although generally the Philharmonia's response was alert and vigorous.

A state of deadpan efficiency had been the dominant characteristic in Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No 2, with John Lill as soloist. The concert's opener — Stravinsky's 1908 student work, the *Scherzo Fantastique* — was far more interesting. Brilliantly deploying the shimmering orchestral resources and vocabulary of the late-Romantic style, it differed from Tchaikovsky or Rachmaninov only in two tiny respects: no tunes and no discernible emotion.

Richard Morrison

London premieres for Arthur Miller's Ibsen and a US play about a Latin American military torturer

High-energy polemic

An Enemy of the People
Young Vic

Written as a warning against the "swelling pre-fascist tide" of McCarthy's United States, Arthur Miller's Ibsen adaptation fell on deaf ears when it first appeared in 1950. Since then, it has been held as a glaring instance of an American author getting a European classic wrong. Objections fasten on Miller's alleged reduction of Ibsen's spikily intransigent Dr Stockmann to a good-guy liberal.

This misses the point that Miller was deliberately re-targeting the piece on his homeland. In this long-overdue English premiere, it also emerges as a work that does magnificent service to Ibsen (with sharpened comedy, and tightened structure) besides its immediate polemic purpose.

Stockmann retains his essentials, as a hero who proves himself a true pillar of the community by defying popular opinion, while also filling in a missing link in the Miller canon between *Death of a Salesman* and *The Crucible*. It is as though Willie Loman found himself facing the HUAC and discovering there was more to life than being well liked.

In David Thacker's high-energy and well-cast production, he is

THEATRE

played by Tom Wilkinson as a great shaggy innocent, passionately devoted to his family, unquestioningly trusting everyone he meets, and basking in self-admiring vanity. His bashful certainty until quite late in the show, that he is going to be feted for each fresh disclosure that the flourishing spa is no better than a septic tank, gives Wilkinson the chance to show him as an outside comic figure as well as a moral hero.

The play advances through a series of hierarchical stations, each exposing a lower level of expediency and corruption, until he turns in Coriolanus-like wrath against the whole population. As in Thacker's version of *Ghosts*, this process is consistently strengthened by giving respect to the opposition. Whether the opponent is his family-obsessed wife, the turncoat journalist, or Aslakson, the taxpayer's watchdog, they are shown as reasonable people bowing to pressure.

Best of all is David Henry's performance of the Mayor, an arch-enemy of great charm and patent sincerity, and who, from first to last, remains Stockmann's exasperatedly affectionate brother.

Irving Wardle



Brothers in arms: David Henry (left) and Tom Wilkinson, with Connie Booth and Suzan Sylvester (right)

Perverved power pitilessly portrayed

The Conduct of Life
Gate Theatre Club

Following Eduardo Pavlovsky's *potestad*, Maria Irene Fornes's *The Conduct of Life* continues the Gate's season of plays examining the macho mentality which lies behind Latin American military dictatorships. But whereas Pavlovsky approached the subject obliquely, by exploring the mind of a compromised collaborator, Fornes gives us a full-frontal picture of a sadistic

torturer who carries on in his own house the unfinished business of the sound-proofed cell.

Orlando has reached the age of 30 without progressing beyond the rank of lieutenant; as his object is to achieve maximum power, his move from the professional to the domestic sphere in the exercise of tyranny is no surprise. His main victim is Nena, an orphan he has picked up off the street and hidden in his house, whom he subjects to male domination in all its forms. As her name suggests, she is little more than a

child; in Annabelle Lanyon's intense if monotonous performance, she spends most of the play's length quivering and whimpering with terror.

It is a tribute to Richard Lintern's edious Orlando that such a response seems entirely natural: the only problem — and it is not the actors' fault — is that his character's unredeemed nastiness points to only one solution right from the start. Norma West as his neglected wife Leticia at first promises more shades and half-tones — on the one hand bourgeois housewife, on the other avid

political student — but Fornes in the end is more interested in types than individuals. The weakness of this strong, sometimes stomach-turning, piece is that the characters speak too much with the same voice. Joan Heal as Leticia's old servant rises above this handicap in one scene of splendid defiance.

The only thing which provides solace for the eyes during these gruelling 80 minutes is Cathy Ryan's ravishing set of washed walls and green and white tiled floor. Francesca Joseph directs.

Harry Eyres

Colours
Playhouse, Leeds

The remarkable military career of Jane Barry makes her something of a heroine to campaigners for women's equality. Born in the 1790s, she was brought up, so she claimed, in the household of the Irish painter, James Barry (presented in this play as historically next and general). A flirtatious child, she captivates an elderly Scottish peer and two military gentlemen, one of them the future Duke of Wellington. "You must not be so forward," he remarks, unbuckling her gown.

Jane Binnie's perky dramatization of her heroine's life includes several such neat moments; they give a liveliness to the characters and function as dramatic shorthand for whirling the story along. After giving birth to somebody's child, she determines to be a doctor. Calling herself James from now on, she enrolls at Edinburgh, manages to avoid such dangerous moments as providing urine samples in class, and becomes a doctor at 17. Undoubtedly this makes her

the first British woman to be medically qualified.

Into the army she goes, serves at the Cape, and on various island stations, (Jamaica, St Helena, Corfu) reforming hospitals. Binnie's play does not tell us in what manner — and in the aftermath of the Crimean War rising to the position of Inspector General of Hospitals. Only after she dies is her sex discovered, although when the facts become generally known is also left unstated.

Two thirds of the play are packed with scenes to relish. The author and her director, John Harrison, score with life or death scenes treated fearfully without sacrificing the serious essence. An exquisite back drop of Table Mountain is presumably by the hand of the designer Norman Coates. But far too much time is spent on the inconvenience of loving a superior officer, far too little on Barry's achievements as a reformer, and barely a speech is

devoted to why she pretended to be a man in the first place.

Her portrayal as a sort of scamp by Hetta Charnley has its undoubted charms and, among the other good performances, those by Terence Booth, Terence Skelton and Jonathan Donne as various military types stand out. But at the end, while we have learned something of what she did, we are left largely ignorant of who she was.

Jeremy Kingston

The Scam
Old Red Lion,
Islington

In the three years of its existence, Loose Exchange has shown-cased plays by half a dozen youngish writers who have since had work produced at grander premises. The company has been praised for using a small space and sketchy

props to suggest a boundless world of illusion, and it is a virtue demonstrated again in this fine production of Peter Lloyd's warning against trusting your states.

The rear walls of the Old Red Lion's upper room have been mottled with colours that hint at the surrounding presence of an orchard. There are tufts of grass along the borders of the stage but the only props are a few wooden packing cases and a couple of the flat baskets apple pickers hitch round their necks when clambering aloft. These are all the non-human visual aids that Lloyd's play needs, for the energy of his drama comes from the eyeball to eyeball confrontations between the four characters, one of them fatally trusting, the others variously treacherous.

Lloyd's central character is Al, a Swanssea teenager keen to make his way honestly to a fortune. Camping with his workshy mate Dar in apple country, south of

Birmingham, he finds himself the pivotal middle man in a scheme to market old fashioned apples like rare flowers. The drippish owner of the orchard (Tim Swinson) provides the merchandise, and the money will be collected by Finn (Steve Tindall), a gift self-promoter whose dishonesty is patent to the sharp-eyed Dar but whose sweet talk bewitches the gullible Al. Through his thigh, pungent writing and expert character building, Lloyd screws up the tension, shifting our emotions to and from the mistrustful Dar (a good snarling performance by Ian Jeffs).

Nigel Hulton's direction cunningly hints at the underlying nature of the characters without disclosing too much until the best moment to disconcert us. Jon Tregenna's portrayal of Al, greatly helped by his open features and keen eyes, is a case in point. Obviously, designed by nature to be Dar's minder it is only when he betrays schoolboy excitement for Finn's wonder-filled ideas that doubts begin; finally the roles of minder and fool are reversed.

J.K.

THE TIMES
ARTS DIARY

One out

Sir Peter Hall's favourite producer, Thelma Holt, is splitting from his new company as soon as its first production, *Orpheus Descending*, is over. Holt, who has worked with Sir Peter for years at the National and organizes its international seasons, was one of the big-name transfers revealed



Soon split: Holt (left) and Hall

when his plans were announced. But, although *Orpheus* had been on their mutual back burners for years, the details of her contract had to be worked out with the company's other directors, including Jerome Minkoff, Duncan Weldon and Sir Ronnie Miller. Nicky Frei, the company publicist, insists Holt will be back as a freelance and Holt tells me she would love to return — but she will not. "It has been made quite clear to me that I shall receive no such offer and that there is no room for me or my team. I am greatly disappointed because I consider Sir Peter the most exciting director in the world. I just hope I shall be able to work with him on other things outside his new company."

Max von Sydow is not the only screen star in Jonathan Miller's *Tempest* at the Old Vic. The Algerian palm tree on the set was one of 200 imported to Britain for Stanley Kubrick's *Fall Metal Jacket*. It was the only palm tree available in Britain to meet Miller's vision.

Hard to swallow

I bet Arts Minister Richard Luce doesn't know whether to cheer or jeer. The good news is that Sue Townsend's new play, *Ear, Nose and Throat*, currently at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle, has found sponsorship worth £30,000. The bad news (for Luce) is that the play is about NHS cuts — and its sponsors are the National Union of Public Employees and Nalco, the local government officers' union.

Regular users of the reading room at Kenal Rise Library in north London are planning a protest "read-in" from the works of Mark Twain next week. They are angry at the decision by financially embarrassed Brent Council to close the library, which was opened by the American author in 1900 (and set up with a £3,000 donation by a compatriot, philanthropist Andrew Carnegie). One user tells me the read-in was almost abandoned because of a mistaken belief that Brent had banned Twain's *Huckleberry Finn* for racism. Most would surmise that Twain would have probably applauded Brent's anti-racist stance as much as he would have deplored the decision.

Andrew Billen

Heather Neill meets John Wells, appearing in *Bartholomew Fair* at the National Theatre

Overdoing the modesty

"They're getting some of us from the red nose brigade in, nowadays," says John Wells of his casting as Justice Overdo in the National Theatre's production of *Bartholomew Fair*. In his case, the categorization is over-modest: actor, director, linguist, journalist, author of the play *Anyone for Denis*, "Mrs Wilson's Diary" and the "Dear Bill" letters in *Private Eye*. He is also a passionate Jonson enthusiast. So much so that he has contributed biographical notes to the *Bartholomew Fair* programme. Softly-spoken, more the humorous ex-schoolmaster than the bitter satirist, he immediately disclaims any notion that he is in the theatrical line of descent from Jonson. "Just not in the same class. None of us is, nowadays."

It was while working with Joan Littlewood, in Theatre Workshop at Stratford East, that he was fired by her enthusiasm for Jonson's "delicacy": his minutely detailed portrait of London life. Then, about 10 years ago, he enjoyed playing the upper-class twit Bartholomew Cokes in a production of *Bartholomew Fair* at the Round House. His admiration has continued to grow. Over lunch during a break from rehearsals at the National his conversation crackled with it: "I began by thinking he was pretty good, but now I believe he was really a genius. He was a more educated man than Shakespeare and his language has lasted better. He had the uncanny ability to put together an inspired political cartoon — including types who are still recognizable — and a marvellous ear for dialogue. He writes the dialect speeches phonetically and it's clear he must have been a very good mimic. The result — cartoon plus hyper-realism — is highly intelligent comedy."

There are, besides, his theatrical gifts ("He must have written it in his study, but what an imagination! If he stipulates a prop, you



Sometime schoolmaster, now actor, playwright, humorist: John Wells

just can't play the scene without it") and his qualities as a man. He was, says Wells, "Gargantuan — practically every character in the play is an aspect of Jonson himself."

Wells has enjoyed the eight-week rehearsal period immensely. After a solitary spell translating *The Magic Flute* for Birmingham Touring Opera, rehearsals were "a fantastic relief, like coming to a dance and social club. The generous time-scale ('You'd never get that in the commercial theatre') has allowed the director, Richard Eyre, and his cast to undertake what Wells calls "a gentle archaeological job" during which the play has "gradually revealed itself, like one of those complicated Victorian machines. All sorts of things become clear and you see what the old boy's getting at."

His own part is a case in point: "This judge goes to the equivalent of the Notting Hill Carnival disguised as an orator because he can't trust his spies. I thought I should come on doing the loony

voice of a mad orator, but then it became obvious that Jonson was attacking the gratuitous remarks that any judge makes; dress him in rags and they seem insane. So no funny voices." Overdo is, says Wells, "like Mrs Thatcher, pursuing an illusory ideal of human goodness." This does not prevent his being easily duped by the cut-purse Ezekiel, a folly put down to the latter's "choirboy good looks".

Bartholomew Fair is a sprawling, colourful, action-packed play, humane and even-handed in its satire. "If you make speeches against materialism — and I have in my time — you find yourself a Puritan by Jonson's standards. He doesn't take a line," Wells says.

The justice's family and various thieves, scoundrels, cheats, fools and hypocrites come together during the traditional Bartholomew Fair in Smithfield. Most, including Overdo himself, learn some hard truths before the proceedings end abruptly with a call to supper. It is, admits Wells, a difficult play "unless you shake hands with the audience early on".

He would probably have agreed, nevertheless, for setting it "bang in 1614" when it was written, but he wholeheartedly supports Richard Eyre's decision to place it in "a late Victorian/Edwardian limbo" in order to define social classes more satisfactorily for a modern audience.

For one thing, "you have to know instantly who the police are." It is, he says, a credit to the play that it is so timeless, especially in its observations of class. "The things that Littlewit, the Pooter figure, and the upper-class Cokes can talk about respectably in public are little different from what they would be now." There are to be no explicit parallels with the present, except that the Puritan, Zeal-of-the-Land-Busy, is to be played with an Ulster accent and might suggest a Paisleyite minister.

Jonson, the step-son of a bricklayer, never went to university, though he benefited from a classical education at Westminster School and was later awarded honorary degrees. Wells read modern languages at Oxford, taught at Eton (from where he "moonlit" to appear at the Establishment Club) and gradually made a name for himself in television satire and *Private Eye*. He believes that Jonson's learning — the Latin tags, classical and topical references — need not be a barrier for a modern audience, as long as the actor understands what he is trying to communicate.

He hasn't much time for the reverential theatrical experience, anyway. People in search of "culture with a capital K" depress him and he talks enthusiastically of the audience reactions to Boucicault's *The Shaughraun*, also in repertory in the Olivier. There you will find, he says, "a proper Sunday Night at the London Palladium audience". He is hoping for a similar reception for *Bartholomew Fair*.

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ROCK

Dire Straits: *Money For Nothing* (Vertigo 836 419-2)
Chris Rea: *New Light From Old Windows* (WEA WX 200)
Pet Shop Boys: *Introspective* (Parlophone PCS 7325)
Gail Ann Dorsey: *The Corporate World* (WEA 244 046-2)

The subliminal rapport that binds together Mark Knopfler's grumbling voice and sweetly lyrical guitar playing is revisited on *Money For Nothing*, an aptly titled Dire Straits compilation which offers little beyond a straightforward repackaging of such over-familiar melodies as "Sultans of Swing", "Romeo and Juliet", "Walk of Life", "Private Investigations" and "Brothers in Arms".

Those people who relish the opportunity to thrill once more to such proven material will know who they are. Many will doubtless welcome the chance to buy the old hits in the CD format which also includes live versions of "Portobello Belle" and "Telegraph Road". The latter, which remains Knopfler's most obvious attempt to emulate Springsteen, is a 12-minute indulgence replete with long instrumental section and stately guitar solo.

Chris Rea has adopted a more novel approach in coupling an album of his most successful material by re-recording his best known songs, "live" in the studio. The resulting *New Light From Old Windows* is a satisfying return voyage round the work of a man who evidently saw the post-CD Eighties coming and whose gentle charms have sneaked up on the collective consciousness by a process of osmosis rather than that of any sudden breakthrough.

His voice has grown simultaneously rougher and more expressive over the years and on the new version of "Stainsby Girls" he sounds like a cross between Tom Waits and Richard Butler of the Psychedelic Furs. Certain blind spots remain, for example the laid back tosh of "Driving Home for Christmas", but his gallant reworking of the Ry Cooder/Little Feat slide guitar shuffle on "Let's Dance" and an extended "Steel River" now stand almost without peer among British musicians.

The Pet Shop Boys' stock is currently so buoyant that without even knowing what the duo plans to release over the Christmas period, William Hill the bookmakers is already giving very short odds on whatever song it is being at to come December 25. *Introspective* includes a remix of last year's chart-topper, "Always on My Mind" together with extended club



Creeping up on you: Chris Rea mixes of "Left to My Own Devices" and the current hit "Domino Dancing".

With their simple, Eurobeat drum tracks, sprinklings of synthesized strings, and half-spoken melodies, Chris Lowe and Neil Tennant continue to capture perfectly the wistful mood that characterizes teenage angst. In "Left to My Own Devices", even the most ordinary activity — making a cup of tea for instance — is turned into a gesture of romantic despair. Enjoyment of such peculiar whimsy depends on one's capacity to suspend disbelief, but it is, at the very least, more fun than listening to the Smiths.

Great things have been said on behalf of Gail Ann Dorsey, an expatriate Philadelphia who began her career as a session bassist with among others, Boy George, Thrashing Doves and the Kane Gang. Her debut album, *The Corporate World*, is an expensive-sounding showcase that comes across at times like a glossier, rockier version of Joan Armatrading.

While some of the songs hit their targets foursquare, notably the title track's vigorous denunciation of that age-old Aunt Sally, the businessman, there is a general lack of depth to the album. In particular, the eloquence of her lyrics, which tend to be of a vaguely anti-materialistic, greenish hue, is offset by the passionless expertise in the playing of the music (guests include Eric Clapton). She has talent but the various elements do not quite gell on this collection.

David Sinclair

Giving voice to rhythm

JAZZ & SOUL

Betty Carter Look What I Got! (Verve 836 661-2)
Luther Vandross Any Love (Epic 462908-2)

and a half minute version which appears on Look What I Got! though, she makes it seem as though she is meeting it for the first time, temporarily erasing the memory of Billie Holiday as she refashions the wistful dreams of Ira Gershwin's lyrics.

Her trademark, of course, is what people usually call the "instrumental quality" of her singing — meaning that she scats wordlessly a lot, and tries to use her voice to emulate what a horn-player would do. I think that such a description underestimates her achievement: when she returns after the piano solo on "The Man I Love", it is to sing a verse in which she makes full use of the words and yet manipulates them into a totally fresh melodic shape so spare and graceful that they would do credit to a peak-form Miles Davis. This is not mere instrumental imitation, though: at such moments she makes a convincing case for being considered simply as an improviser who happens to use the medium of the voice and exploits its own special properties to the full.

People always comment on her preference for rhythm sections consisting of young men at the dawn of their careers. This is another of the ways by which she keeps her music full of surprise, and *Look What I Got!* contains outstanding work from two brilliant young pianists, Benny Green and Stephen Scott. Unusually, she adds a horn to several tracks, and it is no surprise that the unfamiliar Don Braden turns out to be an outstandingly sensitive young tenor saxophonist, with a light but firm tone and a fluid way of phrasing that puts him in the line of descent from Lester Young and Wayne Shorter.

As an ensemble, her young colleagues respond magnificently to her challenge: could any instrumentalist have prompted more inspired accompaniment than the rich, deep, complex swing they

provide behind her final chorus of "Just Like the Movies".

That one is her own song, and there are several more original pieces — often designed to let her express the witty side of her character. But most listeners will imagine the core of the album in the two standards with which it closes, and which display to the full her talent for combining the interpretive powers of Billie Holiday with the technical range and virtuosity of Sarah Vaughan. Bob Haymes's "Make It Last" becomes an erotic reverie on a summer night. Braden's tenor enters to entwine itself with her voice in a manner recalling Snorri on Gil Evans's "Barbara Song" or Stan Getz in his bossa nova days. "The Good Life", that tarnished evocation of Eisenhower-era yuppie values, is actually lighted on a featherweight bossa nova beat which the singer coats with deadpan ambiguity like the master ironist she is.

Just over the border, in the territory of soul music, Luther Vandross occupies a position similar to Miss Carter's standing in jazz: like her, he is a singer of phenomenal technical gifts who enjoys teasing material into new shapes, whether it be a tiny linking phrase or the case of his classic interpretation of Bacharach and David's "A House Is Not a Home" an entire song.

Whereas Miss Carter is driven solely by artistic considerations, refusing on principle to sing a note that does not accord with her vision of what jazz should be, Vandross operates according to the dictates of the commercial marketplace. That means, primarily, that his records must fit snugly into the prevailing international formats of pop radio and the disco; yet this has not prevented him making music of lasting quality.

He enjoyed his first solo success seven years ago, with an album called *Never Too Much* in which his flexible voice made a striking combination with the sparkling arrangements and production of Marcus Miller. Since then I have sometimes felt that Vandross has been

too reliant on the same formula, occasionally neglecting to gather up enough material of substance before going in to make a new album. The world clearly felt differently, though, and in that time his following has grown from a sizeable cult to the sort of congregation that can jam the roads around Wembley for a week.

They will find *Any Love*, his latest collection, an entirely satisfying restatement of his known virtues, blending crisp state-of-the-art dance tracks such as "I Wonder", "She Won't Talk to Me" and "Are You Gonna Love Me", with mellow songs that suggest a desire to broaden his emotional spectrum. The title track, which he co-wrote with Miller, is a slow-medium last-dance tune of remarkable prettiness, set against a yielding rhythm track created by his regular cadre of top-flight New York session men.

Even more significant is "The Second Time Around", not the old Sinatra favourite but a new soul ballad written entirely by Vandross, who cunningly saves its knock-out blow until the chord change immediately preceding the punch-line of the chorus. Paul Riser, the old Motown arranger who has worked with Vandross for a decade, knows exactly how to exploit this kind of hook to maximum effect.

Any Love's set-piece, though, is Vandross's reworking of Major Harris's "Love Won't Let Me Wait", a 1974 classic of boudoir soul. Since Harris's original version was spoiled for these ears by passages of rather literal-minded gasping and groaning, this new version is particularly welcome. Vandross and his arranger, Nat Adderley Jr, pull out all the tricks to create a seven-minute pop symphony which provides plenty of scope for the singer to display his repertoire of melismatic decoration, register leaps and rhythmic subtlety. They also

bring off the simple but telling trick of starting the song with the chorus instead of the verse, a tactic which — as Sinatra proved 30 years ago in his version of "Angel Eyes" — has the virtue of dramatically reintroducing a familiar text. In marks for technical merit and artistic impression, anyway, as well as the horizontal content of its lyrics, it makes an interesting comparison with Miss Carter's "Make It Last".

If there is a reservation about these two artists, it must be that the sheer richness and sophistication of their work can sometimes leave the listener feeling over-stuffed. But they are working at the leading edges of their respective idioms, and their achievements sound like lasting ones.

Richard Williams

Photographs by ALLAN TITMUS



Betty Carter: exploiting all the magical qualities of a voice used as an instrument

A big splash of song

MUSICAL

EMI have clearly been determined to make a big splash in the musical field with *Show Boat*, the first issue in a series planned to put opera stars into American musical comedy — although there is more than a touch of tragedy of the sentimental kind in Edna Ferber's original novel. This set contains all you want to know, and perhaps just a little bit more, about Jerome Kern's 1927 score with book by Oscar Hammerstein II.

A massive appendix, which occupies 12 of the 16 tracks of the third disc, puts in all the extant numbers which were axed on the road to Broadway 60 years ago plus those that were added when Universal filmed it (neither for the first nor the last time) in 1936, with Irene Dunne and Allan Jones. It may prove that *Show Boat* is one of those musicals, like *Candide*, which will never have a definitive version. Each time it is revived there are likely to be new claims and fresh tinkering. But it might have been prudent for John McGlinn, who has done a first rate job with the orchestration and persuades the London Sinfonietta to play as though it had been in vaudeville all its life, to give us his adaptation.

Kern: *Show Boat* Von Stade/Hadley/Stratas, London Sinfonietta/McGlinn EMI CDS 7 49108 2 (three CDs)

The trouble is that Kern and Hammerstein devised as good an opening scene as there is in the American musical. Hit follows hit — "Cotton Blossom", "Who cares if my boat goes upstream", "Only make believe" — and eventually the bass arrives for "Ol' Man River". But then the troubles set in. The rehearsals for the Cotton Blossom's play of the day, *The Purson's Bride*, hold back the musical flow and so does the subplot of the Micegeation Scene, which might have been daring enough in its day but carries little firepower now. Act II has more problems. Kern solved

some of them by hauling in a sentimental lyric, "Just My Bill" by P.G. Wodehouse, for Julie (smokily sung by Teresa Stratas). EMI brings in an actress of the stature of Lillian Gish in the tiny role of the Old Lady who sees Magnolia and Ravenal reunited again as the curtain falls slowly while "Ol' Man River" is heard for the last time.

Much of the quality of the set stems from the charm of Frederica von Stade and Jerry Hadley in those two leading parts. Both handle their dialogue as thoroughbred actors. Hadley may be a lighter tenor than is usual for Ravenal, but he is ever sure of touch and it is impossible to fault von Stade's sweet Magnolia. Bruce Hubbard's Joe is solid enough, but it has always taken a Robeson to suggest the depths of the Mississippi.

John McGlinn's task is to persuade us that Kern's numbers are not repetitive, especially "It's getting hotter in the North" and its London substitute, "Dance away the Night". This he does with brisk tempo changes and an almost Rossinian sense of crescendo.

John Higgins

CLIVE BARDA



Listening for the show-stopper: John McGlinn, who combined disparate talents

The autumn has brought two exceptional new releases from two pianists who are incapable of mediocrity: the Hungarian Andras Schiff chooses a recital of Mozart miscellanea, hard on the heels of his Mozart Sonata series, and the Polish Krystian Zimerman offers distinctly idiosyncratic performances of Chopin.

Schiff's programme was recorded in Vienna, where Mozart wrote all these pieces in the last 10 years of his life. In playing which rivets the attention at every second, Schiff is never tempted to belittle the complexity within even the most apparently artless miniature: his Minuet in D is alarming in its sharp and entirely Mozartian contrasts, seldom so boldly observed. For the Andante for Mechanical Organ (written for Count Deym von Stritz, who collected automata), Schiff seems

to be fashioning each note from translucent porcelain; for the Adagio for Glass Harmonica he plays as if the music itself were of the utmost fragility.

The recital works exceptionally well as a programme. The procession of miniatures, curiosities and wonders — only an artist of Schiff's sophistication could make their simplicity so robust. Zimerman's Chopin is unique in its total surrender. Within playing of complete technical and intellectual control, the emotional response of the artist is entire and unashamed. In the first Ballade he finds all the resonance necessary in the keyboard to buoy up the emotional breadth and depth of his playing, so that any accusation of self-indulgence is forestalled. There is something near-mesmeric in the way he seems to let the first Impromptu establish its own pace and shape, or, in the Second, lets one hand idly track the other only to meet head on as in a sudden rush of two currents.

His Third Impromptu is limpid, almost Schubertian, while his Barcarole, an oscillating pattern of glassy figures, offers temporary release before an unusually fierce and disturbing F minor Fantasy.

Hilary Finch

THE SUNDAY TIMES LENNON

Photos from Yoko's personal collection.
Plus an unpublished song.
TOMORROW

BOOKS

Long march for warrior queens

Victoria Glendinning plods through the mists of time in *Lady Antonia*

Fraser's catalogue of battleaxes

You can see Boadicea, immortalized by the Victorian sculptor Thomas Thornycroft, driving her wild horses on the Thames Embankment, beside Westminster Bridge and opposite the Houses of Parliament. She is standing up in her chariot, a spear in one upraised hand: she is the starting and finishing point for Antonia Fraser's study of warrior queens, or rather Warrior Queens, since this is a book that capitalizes on capital letters. The historical Boadicea, or Boudica, or Bonica, did not really have knives affixed to her chariot wheels, and she may or may not have cut off the breasts of Romanized women and stuffed them in their mouths. But the legends about the fearless leader of the Britons against the occupying Romans interest the author as much as the historic truth.

Boadicea, about whom we know so little, remains the generic name for a martial heroine, and the one that springs to mind when seeking for a comparison for, say, Mrs Thatcher at the time of the Falklands War. The bit we are longing to read is precisely that — what Lady Antonia thinks about Mrs Thatcher as a Warrior Queen (the politics are irrelevant here). It comes at the end, and there's a lot to cover before we get there.

This book is a catalogue of world-class battleaxes — women who deployed their country's forces in time of war. Joan of Arc is therefore out, and so is Our Lady of Victories, the Virgin Mary. Lady Antonia drives her

Boadicea's Chariot by Antonia Fraser (Weidenfeld & Nicolson £14.95)

chariot very near the frontiers of Marina Warner country, but does not actually invade. Her survey begins with Queen Medb, the heroine of Celtic pre-history, and goes on to consider Semiramis, Artemisia (who vanquished Xerxes), Cleopatra, and Zenobia of Palmyra before we have even reached the end of the third century, so the "long march of Boadicea's mythical history", as she calls it, is pretty gruelling.

Since, ancient history being what it is, one cannot know very much about these Warrior Queens as people, there is nothing for it but to put them in context and recount their political and military campaigns. And ancient history being what it is, even this kind of narrative is problematic; the learned authorities disagree about sites, dates, interpretations.

It gets less fraught as we move on with the stage army of Warrior Queens to — among others — Matilda of Canossa, Tamara of Georgia, Isabella of Castile; and by the time we reach our own Elizabeth I, the going is getting easier. But 25 pages of close-packed source-notes suggest that Lady Antonia, grappling manfully (or womanfully) with fascinating

topics such as the weight of a torc and the most recent excavations of Roman London, has the stamina of a Warrior Queen herself.

Above the mêlée, she identifies various behaviour patterns, which she calls "syndromes", all or some of which are manifested by Warrior Queens: the Appearance Syndrome, according to which the Warrior Queen justifies herself by stressing her connection with a famous father or husband, or fights allegedly on behalf of her son; the Shame Syndrome, otherwise the Better-man Syndrome, which means she shows up the chaps by being braver than they are; the Tomboy Syndrome, which implies that she never played with dolls when she was a little girl; and the Only-a-Weak-Woman Syndrome, when she puts on a sudden show of weakness or modesty for strategic purposes.

Mrs Thatcher operates according to nearly all these syndromes in Lady Antonia's analysis, which is why all commentators agree that her style of leadership has a lot to do with her being a woman, without being able to explain quite how.

Many women, and not only visionary feminists, would say that a society ruled by women

would be non-aggressive, and that the modern Iron Ladies this book considers — Mrs Gandhi, Mrs Meir, Mrs Thatcher — were or are "honorary men".

Whether women are by nature more peace-loving than men is beyond the scope of this book; what is relevant is that they have been perceived to be, which makes the rare phenomenon of a Warrior Queen all the more intriguing. Male historians have tended to write about them as if for the fashion page, reporting on what they were to face the foe. Their sexuality, like their clothes, Lady Antonia found, has always been a matter of comment. They were reported to be either amazingly chaste or amazingly promiscuous.

It has always been acceptable for women to rule the world by rocking the cradle, or by being the power behind the throne. But strong women who reject this traditional, covert influence, and bang about in their own right, cause flutters in the breasts of both sexes. In myth and as holders of great office they can madden, fascinate or inspire in ordinary life they are objects of dislike and fear, and the butts of horrid jokes.

But what would Alexander the Great or the Duke of Wellington have been like by bedtime if their energies had been confined to waiting in for the man to mend the washing machine? If Boadicea's glory can be expected to endure, as Lady Antonia confidently concludes, it may be because most women know they could drive that chariot if they had to, and most men know it, too.



Song of the workers

Benn covers two years in office and two in opposition

The man whom I and many others used to know as Anthony Benn (before he substituted a demotic title for the territorial one he disclaimed) is of course an outstanding speaker. More surprisingly — since orators are often a disappointment in print — he is also a good writer, in the rather curious sense that words dictated by him late at night into a tape machine, after frantically busy days, are as clear and easy to read as if they were written at leisure by a professional. As a diarist, moreover, he has three all-important merits. He records conversations, as well as incidents, in detail; he makes a serious effort to be fair to rivals or people with whom he disagrees; and he is capable of being honest at his own expense.

His new volume of diaries covers two years in government and, after Labour's unexpected defeat in June 1970, two in opposition. During the first phase he is still the eager technocrat with a mission to modernize and regenerate British industry, favouring membership of the EEC to the extent of being "really a federalist", and initially welcoming Barbara Castle's proposals for trade union reform (*In Place of Strife*). During the second, he is well on his way to becoming the Tony Egalite of more recent times, identifying himself with the working-class struggle against capitalism.

The two phases of his career are not, of course, absolutely distinct. Some intimations of the second are already evident in the first. For instance, on June 13, 1968: "Watched the World Revolutionary Students on television. There was the man they called Danny the Red... who looked as if he were a retired Jesuit; Tariq Ali who was President of the Oxford Union [as Benn himself had been]; a beautiful Yugoslav woman who said that Tito was wonderful; and a variety of others from different countries. In a way, they are saying many of the things I am..."

Out of office, the process of transformation quickens, as can be seen in this entry for March 6, 1971:

Went up by train to Newcastle and talked to the Northumberland Mechanics' Association and then to the dinner at which Vic Feather and Joe Gormley spoke. There were songs and bawdy speeches, and it was an agreeable evening. As a result of the Tories' Industrial Relations Bill, the trade union movement, and the working class even more, have become proud of being the working class... There is a tremendous self-confidence in being yourself and what you are. It is "black is beautiful" applied to the working class, which is marvellous.

Swept along by romanticism



The eager technocrat: Tony Benn, man with a mission
Office without Power: Diaries 1968-72 by Tony Benn (Hutchinson, £16.95)

about the proletariat, he is losing self-confidence in being himself and what he is. A few months later he remarks that a French visitor (Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber) seems anxious to escape from Marxism "at a time when I am moving more in that direction".

He has not yet abandoned his theoretical support for joining the EEC, though in practice he is giving aid and comfort to anti-Europeans by demanding a referendum on the issue instead of backing the terms of entry negotiated by the Heath government. At the same time he cannot help admiring Roy Jenkins's principled stand at a meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party on July 19, 1971, when he attacks "negative insularity" and argues that Labour in opposition must not run away from its commitments in office. Benn describes this speech as "powerful" and "great", though also — significantly — as "elitist".

By contrast with his unmistakable respect for Jenkins, he has nothing but contempt for Harold Wilson, of whose self-obsession and inability to take a long view he is ceaselessly complaining. Yet in 1971-2 he behaves very much as Wilson behaved in 1960-61, when he ditched Gaitskell in the name of party unity. Benn, as party chairman during the Market controversy, invokes the same pious excuse. He feels, too, that there may be pressure on him to stand for the deputy leadership, because Michael Foot is "not an ambitious man" and anyway likely to be defeated by Jenkins. But his own ambition disgusts him rather. "I am almost ashamed to talk about this in my diary because it makes it seem that I am mainly concerned with [the deputy leadership], which I hope I am not. But egoism

eats up all politicians in time, which is probably the case for getting rid of them."

In August 1972 he thinks of resigning his Privy Counsellorship, his MA and all his honorary doctorates, in order to strip himself of "what the world had to offer". But "it might be ridiculed". In any case he retains his Privy Counsellorship and, so far as I know, his academic credentials, contenting himself with becoming Tony Benn — which, he says, he has long been "in Bristol".

It has been suggested that Benn's American wife, Caroline, has pushed him into being more radical and rabble-rousing than he might otherwise have been. But on more than one occasion in the book we find her regretting something he has said and urging restraint.

There are many humorous touches. In January 1968, for example, he meets at Strasbourg Signor Montini, brother of Pope Paul VI, and tells him that he wishes the Pope would visit England. "I wondered whether this was perhaps being disrespectful. It was a bit like saying, 'How is the Virgin Mary — do remember me to her when you see her'."

The incident that sticks most firmly in the mind is Benn's visit to Vic Feather, general secretary of the TUC, at Congress House in the week following the collapse of *In Place of Strife*. "Vic kept me waiting for a long time which was an indication of how powerful he felt: he didn't have to bother very much about Cabinet Ministers. He was very pleased with the way things had gone last week." He must have been equally pleased, in 1971, to have Benn campaigning with him against Heath's Industrial Relations Bill to the accompaniment of "songs and bawdy speeches".

John Grigg

The ways in which people pursue goodness are endlessly varied. Most of them are laced with vanity and often with contempt for the ways of others. So in working out the shifting combinations of self-regard and selflessness in her characters, Iris Murdoch provides herself with rich opportunities in *The Book and the Brotherhood* (Penguin, £4.99). First she constructs a tightly-knit group of characters (the brotherhood) and roughly sketches in their lives so far. Then she moves from one to another pointing out a foible here or a secret there, showing their relationships through an almost casual choice of incidents, and delving into the past to deepen the complexity of the present. Sometimes there is a dramatic confrontation: a man is thrown into the river by a rival, another is accidentally killed during a dangerous game, a woman finds herself suddenly compelled to love a man she thought she hated. It is a vast and ramshackle narrative in which the author's skill hardly falters. Nor does her talent for creating characters almost sinister in their power to dominate the lives and thoughts of others. Here the group of

Brothers up in arms

SHORT LIST

friends are overshadowed by a man whom they have commissioned to write a book. The project, when in progress, serves somehow to unite them. Its completion brings a burst of energy shaking all their lives into a different pattern.

In *The Fire-Dwellers* by Margaret Laurence (Virago, £4.50), Slacey is a prairie-born Canadian girl turned suburban mother and housewife. Her story is recounted through the device of an interior monologue which is suitably disjointed to show her frequent changes of mood and self-awareness. At one moment she can stand back and see her life as a whole, at another she flails about in the fantasies of what her life could or should have been. In fact she is not short of drama. A child nearly drowns. She gets drunk at her husband's office party. He seems to have taken a lover. She is on the look-out for a lover. It could be seen as a daily soap opera, but she is debilitated by boredom. "I am

either suffering from delayed adolescence or premature menopause symptoms, most likely both," she says. What she is really suffering from is the feeling that she, as a mother, is somehow responsible for everyone around her. She must answer to the neighbour whose wife has taken an overdose; she must take in father-in-law when he is going blind; she must share the burden of her husband's preposterous boss, and his even more demanding best friend. The style is zany enough to escape self-pity but in spite of the end where there is a hint of optimism, a strong sense of tedium runs through this Canadian answer to *The American Dream*.

John Berger lives in a small village in the French Alps. In *Pig Earth*, a collection of essays, poems and stories (The Hogarth Press, £6.95), he reflects on the nature of country customs and the special

experiences of the peasant way of life. He starts with a stark, unsentimental description of a family slaughtering a cow and cutting up the corpse. It is both a solemn ritual and a practical routine, demonstrating in its bleakness the qualities of dignity and determination to survive, which Berger sees as the central characteristics of the peasants he knows. In the simple stories which follow he constructs a portrait of village life from the opinions, stories, eye witness reports, legends, comments and hearsay of the people around him. Then, having celebrated their quality of life, he ends with a cool but passionate analysis of the position of the peasants in the increasingly urbanized world of the 20th century. They are being squeezed out by new ways of organizing the economy and by the development of large-scale agribusiness. Destroying the peasantry of the world, says Berger, could be a final act of historical elimination. Summit conferences are

never very convincing. They often suggest a tug-of-war between weighty concerns and silly behaviour. In *Summit* (Abacus, £3.99), the concluding part of "The Russian Quartet", D.M. Thomas takes up the strand of absurdity and writes it gleefully into bizarre patterns of slapstick and satire. The main actors are not hard to recognize. President "Tiger" O'Reilly and his wife Wanda need to restore their image after a few embarrassing domestic scandals, so they travel to Geneva to meet Gorbichov — who brings both wife and lover — to hammer out the world's problems. But the overheated atmosphere of conviviality brings a cosiness beyond our wildest dreams. O'Reilly gets befuddled to the point of offering California to the Russians as a present, and Gorbichov wastes his time trying to interpret even the most inane remarks as sophisticated diplomatic offensives. As the joke goes on it gets rather overstated, and the bitterness begins to lose its edge. Nevertheless, there are some good moments. It is an adult fairy tale.

Anne Barnes

The new Dubliners

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting paperbacks published this week:

FICTION
A New Book of Dubliners (edited by Ben Fowles) (Methuen, £4.95) Short stories of modernist Dublin, from Joyce to Flann O'Brien, preface by Benedict Kiely.

Antonia Saw the Oryx First, by Maria Thomas (Serpent's Tail, £7.95) First publication of novel of two women, one white American, one black African, finding something of value together in the ruins of shattered colonialism in East Africa; less narcissism than Karen Blixen, less bullshit machismo than Hemingway.

Carmen Dog by Carol Emshwiller (The Women's Press, £4.95) From the new genre of women's SF and fantasy, enabling them to remake the world safer for females, story of golden Labrador bitch who is turning into an opera singer, and her mistress who is changing into a snapping turtle and spending an inordinate amount of time in the bath.

The Best Mysteries of Isaac Asimov (Grafton, £3.99) 31 of the author's favourite mysterious and riddling tales.

The Gallery by John Horne Burns (The Hogarth Press, £5.95) Classic story set in Naples of 1944, loosely based on author's experiences there with American army intelligence, one of the best books about the war, with a new introduction by Paul Bailey.

The Prizegiving by Aysel Ozkan, translated by Celia Kerslake (The Women's Press, £4.95) First English publication of a Turkish novel within a novel, about woman invited to Ankara for a literary prize, and finding that life's prizes are not always what they seem.

QUICK GUIDE



Barry by Victoria Wood (Methuen, £3.95) Book of the TV sketches by one of the world's funniest and rudest solo comedians.

POETRY
Collected Poems 1957-1987 by Dom Moraes (Penguin, £3.95) Marks the sixtieth birthday of the poet in the UK; the first major book from India's finest English language poet for over a decade includes more than 50 new poems.

Interlunar by Margaret Atwood (Cape, £5.95) New collection from supreme Atwood, who insists "we must learn to see in darkness". Short poems evoking the natural world, her sharp awareness of the fear, anger and sadness between the sexes, and a growing awareness of mortality.

NON-FICTION
Arguing by William Empson (Chatto & Windus, £15) Essays on literature (mostly modern) and culture (including death, Buddhism, the Christian God, and Gray's cat) from the cleverest and funniest critic of his generation, edited by John Haffenden.
A Writer's Nightmare by R. K. Narayan (Penguin, £3.95)

Pick of essays over the past 30 years, sombre, hilarious, or satirical, ranging in subjects from weddings to mathematics, and from newspapers to monkeys (not far), and lovers to the caste system. August & Rab by Mollie Butler (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £6.95) Personal memoir and love story of a full and adventurous life shared with two famous men: the Arctic explorer August Courtland and the best Prime Minister we never had, Rab Butler.

Dead Men's Chest by Nicholas Rankin (£5.95) In the footsteps of Robert Louis Stevenson, from Edinburgh to the South Seas, with charming digressions, meticulous scholarship, and satisfying detective work.

The Age of Empires 1875-1914 by E. J. Hobsbawm (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £9.95) Red eagle's eye over the ending of the long nineteenth century, particularly interesting and original on social and cultural topics, such as the uncertainties of the bourgeoisie, the New Woman, and "Certainities Undetermined: The Sciences".

The Road to Botany Bay by Paul Carter (Faber, £5.95) An essay in spatial history, describing how Australia originated in the acts of settlement, possession and dispossession, by explorers who travelled, named, and wrote.

Timebends by Arthur Miller (Methuen, £5.95) The big, honest, and moving autobiography of the life and work of the man who wrote *Death of a Salesman*, the finest play to come out of America this century, stood up to McCarthy's witch-hunt with *The Crucible*, the intellectual who married Marilyn Monroe, and seemed to have reconciled opposites and turned the American dream into reality.

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EATING OUT

Truckstop fashion

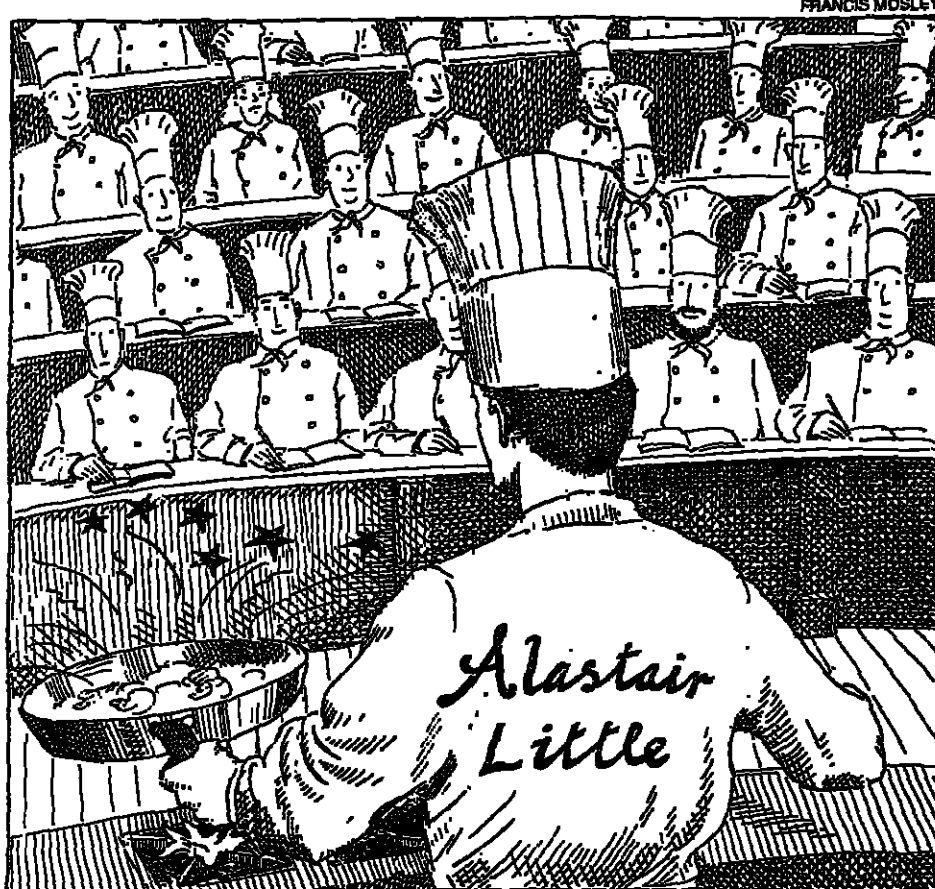
Jonathan Meades revisits Alastair Little's eponymous restaurant in Soho and is pleased to discover that his fears are unfounded

The worst that can be said of Alastair Little, London's most fashionable restaurant of the year before last, is that its flirtation with inverse snobbery has developed into a full-blown affair. Paper napkins and food unceremoniously dumped on the table were all very well when those tables were pristine in their blackness, when the café-like surrounds were make-believe, when the prices were appropriate to the self-consciously open-necked approach. But now that the floor is scuffed and the tables are chipped (this was never a room that was going to age gracefully), and now that the prices are comparable with those of far more *soigné* places, the pretension is manifest.

Not, I suppose, that it much matters for Alastair Little, eponym and chef, as opposed to Alastair Little, the unkempt and noisy restaurant posing as a Malmö truckstop: it has never been in better form. Little's cooking this year delivers what it promised when he opened in 1985 — that there was ever much wrong with it. But three meals in the past seven months suggest that the kitchen has now added consistency to its qualities of eclecticism and invention and sheer brilliance in *certain dishes*.

Little is of the generation that invented fringe theatre, and those who can bear to dive into their memories of that milieu will recall the dread phrase "the right to fail". This became an article of faith — which is probably all the audience deserved; but then the audience was paying only £1.50 per head to sit on a hard chair in a former Territorial Army hall or a pub's annex. Little's practice of changing his menu twice a day, every day, was used to suggest that if he was not actually courting the right to fail he was at least running that risk — dishes used to get a public outing before they were fully researched and rehearsed. It is not for nothing that the French for rehearsal is *répéter*.

And it is not for nothing that Little, in an edition of the



Observer magazine series, which might well be called "You Scratch My Back" (practitioners in various endeavours are invited to cite those of their fellows they admire), named along with his chums Rowley Leigh and Simon Hopkinson. Nico Ladenis. This would have been unthinkable three years ago — what, I suspect, has happened is that Little has learned that improvisation is only worthwhile if it has been put through its paces. Practice makes perfect, there is no craft without technique and so on.

Now, I may be way off the rails about all this but, whatever the cause, there is now an absence of the marring fragility which characterized his kitchen when he opened. The

adventurousness is intact, mind, it is merely (merely!) tempered by a high professionalism. Performance now exceeds the hype, which is strong praise.

Also, the audience has altered. The video-yobs have gone, and so have the film-can carriers and those at the "interface" of marketing and bull. They have hardly seen Little's face in magazines for months, so have walked on by:

ALASTAIR LITTLE
49 Frith Street, London W1
(01-734 5183)

£70 inc wine and service.
No credit cards. Mon to Fri
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it was, I reckon, Little's bad luck, save in the very short run of things, to have been rendered quite so fashionable in a segment of society where fashion and food are incongruent. The current audience, despite a collective tendency to run hands through hair, seems to be one that actually appreciates the kitchen's efforts. And so it should: last week's meal, like those in March and April, was really special, it was also pretty much unlike that which you would get anywhere else — technique has freed individuality.

Little's *foie gras* terrine is exceptional — fondant, sweet, served in a slice as thick as a cellular telephone: yes, there was one of those across the room but only as a prop,

thankfully. A vast platter of toasted scallops comes with an impeccably dressed salad and a thin, piquant, creamy sauce based on, maybe, shallots and fruit vinegar. A dish of chicken, wrapped in the Italian bacon called *pancetta*, and Savoy cabbage — the sort of thing the kitchen used to get, say, 80 per cent right — was impeccable: excellent meat; perfectly timed; presumably steamed, certainly done by a means which didn't desiccate the cabbage and bacon; sauced with a gravy that was judiciously reduced to a state well this side of stickiness.

Half liver comes with sweetish onions and a sweetish, alcoholic sauce. Vegetables are dished up with a considered negligence that accords with the paper napkins; a purée of potatoes and celeriac browned under a grill, creamy leeks, broccoli cooked in seawater (and more or less inedible). Cheeses are British and Irish — the Republic wins in this department, with the sample of Castled Blue I got. And a soft, strong number called Gubbeen also impressed. A pudding of chocolate truffle cake was absolutely the works. With a bottle of Mondavi's '84 Pinot Noir, two Kirs and two sweet wines, the bill for two including a tip for the fine service was £89. With a proportionally kindred tip you might just get by with a mere £65. Still, to reverse my counsel from a few weeks back, it is worth the trip from Winchester.

Little's strengths that I haven't mentioned are his eschewal of the fancy, or, rather, his ability to distinguish between fancy and imagination; his refusal to turbo-charge flavours so that they are self-parodic; his ability to turn homey cooking into restaurant cooking without abandoning its essence as nourishment.

Set-books are, I know, supposed to be death to their delectation but nonetheless I'll chance it and aver that Little should be on the curriculum of every catering college in Britain. Sorry, Alastair.

This is a changing selection of restaurants visited in recent months — managements and standards may have changed. Stars — up to a maximum of 10 — are for cooking rather than swags and chandeliers. Dishes described are included to give an indication of the cooking but may well have changed. Prices quoted are for a three-course meal with drinks for two, and are determined according to the "When in Rome" principle: in the case of French places, aperitifs and a bottle of modest winter tag in the case of Oriental ones; beer or lassi in the case of Indian ones and so on. JML

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65A Fleet Street, London NW3
(01-734 4782)

Downstairs is a wine bar with a puny wine list and miter-Europan cooking. Upstairs is a fatter restaurant offering some decent Polish cooking, including a pancake of apple with smoked salmon, outstanding lakas, lightly cured sausage. £25.

Cho Won
27 Romilly Street, London W1
(01-472 2222)

Korean place that shows Korea's culinary debt to Japan. Good beef and onion stew, excellent pancake of ground beef, pleasant spinach with sesame. £30.

Ninjin
244 Great Portland Street, London W1 (01-388 4657)

Dreadfully decorated Japanese businessmen's basement café whose cooking hits some real heights. Beef and potato stew, deliciously light dumplings, minced sliced chicken. £30.

Howard's
165 Randolph Avenue, London W9 (01-286 7107)

Animated wine bar with highly agreeable host and cooking that is markedly superior to most such establishments. £25.

Laurent
402 Finchley Road, London NW2 (01-44 3603)

Far and away the best of the few London restaurants that do couscous. It is actually better than most in Paris, too. The grain is served with various combinations of grilled lamb and merguez sausage and with first class broth. To start with the Tunisian brick à l'oeuf is delicious. Cheap and potent Moroccan wine. £28.

Ikkyu
77 Tottenham Court Road, London W1 (01-638 9280)

Informal and rather chaotic Japanese basement café specializing — the only place in London to do so — in robatayaki (rustic cooking). Much of this is very good indeed: potato and beef stew, grilled pickled, meaty tasting miso soup, wonderful sashimi in large portions, grilled duck. £20.

DIRECTORY

OUT OF TOWN

Ognisko Potokle
55 Prince's Gate, Exhibition Road, London SW7
(01-589 4535)

The restaurant of the Polish Heart Club is open to non-members and serves excellently prepared traditional dishes such as tripe in the Warsaw manner, potato pancakes with sour cream, wild mushrooms, sauerkraut, flavoured vodka. The décor has been modernized a bit and you now believe yourself in Gdansk in the Fifties. £25.

Mr Kong
21 Lisle Street, London WC2
(01-437 7341)

Good quality new wave Cantonese cooking in rather plain surroundings. Satay eels with tamarind pepper are sensational and the "sandpot" dishes (assorted) are outstanding — duck with yams, lamb with dried bean curd, venison with ginger wine. £25.

Goeta
57 Willems Lane, London NW6 (01-624 1713)

Fine south Indian café which, though it is mainly vegetarian, serves some really good meat dishes. Rice-four dumplings, potato pancakes, potatoes cooked with cream and chili, chili, fruit flavoured lassis, Rasam soup — all these are recommended. £15.

Cholburi
25 Winchester Road, London NW3 (01-722 9086)

Rudimentary Thai café which serves some outstanding items: chicken curry with kaffir lime leaf; a cold beef dish flavoured with hot and sour sauce; wide noodles with soy jelly of fruit and coconut milk. They also do take-aways. £27.

Linda's
4 Fernhead Road, London W9 (01-969 9387)

Boudoir-like Vietnamese café with rum selection of English wines. Chicken with ginger, beef consommé with rice sticks, pudding of mung beans flavoured with orange peel. £19.

Garbo's
42 Crawford Street, London W1 (01-262 6622)

Swedish cooking, Swedish service (which is doggedly inefficient), Swedish clientele, Swedish pop music. The "rustic diet", Jansson's Temptation (a gratin of potato, anchovy and cream) is not notably well done. But there is good sorrel and beetroot in beer, meat balls in cream, Pipp beer. £27.

Billboard Café
222 Kilburn High Road, London NW6 (01-328 1374)

Looks like some sort of video director's idea of an American diner, serves cocktails, plays non-stop pop music, employs garish waitresses. But the basically Italian cooking is quite sound: proper pasta dishes, well-made salads, well-prepared lamb. £30.

Paris House
Wormley Abbey, Bedfordshire (0525 25592)

Pretty good but sometimes over-elaborate cooking by Roux brothers' proteges Peter Chandler, whose superlative sweets tend to be better than his forays into a park in a mock-Tudor folly in a deep park. Antlers everywhere. £30.

Harpers
6-7 Ox Row, Market Square, Salisbury, Wiltshire (0122 333118)

Fairly simple first-floor restaurant overlooking Salisbury's impressive market place. Good rack of lamb, mushroom tart; attentively prepared vegetables; impressive selection of French regional wines. £30.

Swan Hotel
Stratford, Berkshire (0491 873737)

The view is of a stereotypical Thamescape: weir, weeping willow, Oxford barge, motor cruiser. Service is efficient and the cooking is really good: Guinness is named by a tendency to over-emphasize saucing and a certain brutality of flavour. But such things as fish soup with chili mayonnaise and yoghurt soup are all right. £25.

Providence
Lynderton Mill, Sway, Lymington, Hampshire (0590 622119)

The New Forest is full of restaurants that should be avoided. This is not among them, indeed it is worth a long journey. Jean Pierre Nor's cooking is authentically Provencal — his family run a starred establishment at Les Baux — and quite outstanding. His mulet braised with fennel, pesto and star anise is delicious and so are such things as duck confit with braised chicken, a quiche stuffed with chicken and sweetbreads. The Provencal wines are imported specially for this place and are cheap; indeed the whole place is a tremendous bargain, especially at lunchtime. At dinner the cost is about £25.

Burgh Island Hotel
Bigbury on Sea, Devon (0548 810514)

Unusually sited Art Deco hotel on an island. Great for lovers of sea and spray. The rather over-ambitious cooking scores too many own goals. £42.

White's
93 High Street, Cricklade, Wiltshire (0753 751110)

Confident and assertive cooking that tastes of something. Colin White's stuff is unashamedly rustic, generous, fairly inventive: lovely soup with fine croutons; brains deep fried with lemon compote; and cheese and chutney. The dining room is pretty, the service is friendly, the wines are real bargains. £20.

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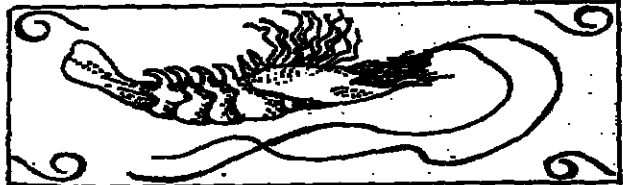
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DRINK

All round on a fizz

Ask André Lalier, head of Deutz, in their 150th anniversary year, to describe the taste of his champagne and his expression becomes stern. "The taste of independence," he snaps. His somewhat cryptic reply has several meanings: the soft, delicate fruit of Deutz champagne is unique and separate in style from that produced by the other Champenois. But Lalier also means that Deutz, unlike many other champagne houses, still remains an independent concern. No mean feat considering the numerous mergers and acquisitions there have been in this region recently, topped by link-up between the Moët-Hennessy-Dior group and that of Louis Vuitton-Veuve Clicquot.

What separates Deutz from the others is Lalier and his small hard-working team's determination to follow their own palates and their own business judgement.

What would William Deutz and Pierre Geldermann, the Prussian founding fathers of Deutz (born in French Alsace-Champagne — now German Aachen), have made of the latest venture, the South Korean *methode champenoise* wine, Grandiose? Deutz does not have a joint venture with Daesun, the Korean firm which produces this sparkling wine (which turned out much better than Deutz were expecting) only a technical assistance programme. Given the early struggles to establish the house and wine's reputation, I suspect they would have approved. Throughout the 150 years and five generations of the Deutz-Lalier family's control, diversification has obviously helped Deutz to survive and succeed where other houses have failed.

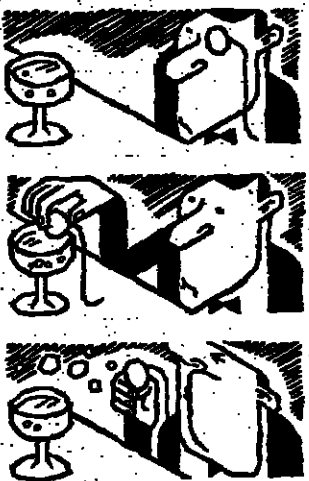
Deutz and Geldermann had kept in close touch with Germany, selling more bottles of champagne there than anywhere else. Their first diversification was to produce a *methode champenoise* wine in Alsace. Later this concern moved to Breisach, in Germany, and became the Sektkellerei Deutz and Geldermann. Today it produces three million bottles plus of sparkling wine and is run by James Lalier, André's brother.

In 1980, Maison Deutz was founded in southern California's Arroyo Grande region. Now part-owned by Wine World, which belongs to the

Neslé group, the first three *methode champenoise* releases from this winery (as the Americans refer to them), including the light, restrained first attempt have all gone down well on the West Coast.

Philippe Caudrelier-Benac, Lalier's right-hand man, oversees the Californian operation; the early Californian harvest (in August) allows him to return to Champagne just in

ERIC BEAUMONT



time for its harvest in September.

Given South America's high sparkling wine consumption, it was inevitable that Deutz would succumb to the overtures from a South American company, and in 1983 it did just that with Navarro Correas, a small, old, Argentinian wine firm based in Mendoza. The sweet, yeasty and bizarrely flavoured Navarro Correas Brut will not be enjoyed by Europeans but this is apparently exactly how the Argentinians like their sparkles.

Next, New Zealand's mighty and quality-minded Montana stepped into the Australasian gap this year and

its bottle-fermented, or *methode champenoise*, wine-maker has just finished his first training vintage at Deutz.

In addition to these sparkling wine ventures, Deutz also bought two French wine firms in the Seventies, Domaine de l'Aulée in the Loire (chief supplier of base wine for the Deutz Sektkellerei) and producer of rather aggressively fresh, acidic Touraine sparklers, and the fine house of Delas in the Rhône.

What is remarkable is that Deutz, which produces 850,000 bottles of champagne, is a medium-sized house; yet it is still looking for countries to expand into — China and Russia are future possibilities; in practice I suspect Spain is likely to be the next Deutz overseas enterprise.

Lalier, commenting further on the Deutz house style, says: "My father created today's style, and taught by him for 15 years I would say it is a knife's edge balance between power and finesse." Lalier also believes firmly that the Deutz vineyards at Ay and Pierry, south of Epernay, give his champagnes much of their distinctive character.

The Deutz non-vintage Brut with its gentle, fruity taste and slight tell-tale touch of pink, is a good place to start your Deutz education, especially as the price this month at André Simon branches is down from £12.75 to £11.95. I am also fond of the '82 Blanc de Blancs with its racy, pineapple-like tartness (André Simon £19.75 or Laytons, 20 Midland Road, London NW1, £206.76 by the case). The current Deutz vintage on sale here is the excellent 1982 and although I cannot get worked up about the rose version, the straight '82 boasts a powerful, flowery scented and an elegant, full-flavoured palate (André Simon, £17.24; Laytons, £17.24).

Avoid the prestige Cuvée William Deutz priced at £32 and go straight for the delicious 150th anniversary champagne, a Pinot Noir-based blend of three different vintages (the '79, '81 and '82), which has a stylish, lime blossom-like scent and vigorous fruity palate. It is hand-bottled in an exact replica of its first 1838 bottle (André Simon £25, Laytons £250.96 a case).

Jane MacQuitty

annual subscription from VWC at Wine Fare House, 5 High Road, Byfleet, Weybridge, Surrey.

© 1983 Graecher Himmelreich Riesling Auslese (Waltrose £6.85): delicious, classic Mosel, with an elegant flowery scent and honey on the palate.

© 1978 Chateau Talbot, Majestic Wine Warehouses £18.95: this fourth-growth St Julien property has always had its British devotees but it is rare to find a mature vintage such as this for sale. It has a gloriously rich, oaky scent and taste and would be perfect with roast beef.

© 1984 Corbières, Domaine Sanberry Cartier: a luscious, peppery red, bursting with fruit and flavour and is given away priced at £3.55 or £3.35 for Vintners Wine Club members (£14

THE TIMES COOK

Real life can imitate art — Frances Bissell takes a tip from the cook of the film

Have a feast not a fret

DIANA LEADBETTER

The essence of a feast is contrast and surprise. In that gentle and inspiring film *Babette's Feast*, Babette gave the villagers of northern Denmark a glimpse of another world, with her feast of caviar, turtle soup, quails baked in pastry cases, fine cheese and desserts.

But a feast does not have to be planned around caviar and turtle soup. Try to match the feast to the recipient. For a city dweller, what could be more welcome than new-laid free range eggs, freshly dug potatoes, unpasteurized cheeses and a game bird? A visitor from abroad should be treated to good British food in season. If you have a cook coming for dinner, think of preparing dishes that they would not normally cook themselves.

I am planning a dinner for someone who is a mixture of all three. A city person, she will enjoy something rustic and simple, and as she is not a frequent visitor to England we shall want to impress her with what is grown and produced here. Smoked salmon, then, to start. And some fresh North Sea fish is a must: brill, a turbot, or perhaps some scallops which I shall simply poach or grill, and serve with a delicate parsley and chive sauce. Then something baked and traditional like a steak, kidney and oyster pie, with the steak and kidney cooked in beer. I would love to serve her a trifle tart for pudding, but that would be too lots of pastry. Instead we shall have perfectly ripe pears with some farmhouse Cheddar.

Quail's eggs baked in potatoes make an attractive starter to any meal. It is also an immensely versatile recipe. Fill the potatoes with shrimps, snails, mushrooms, goat's cheese or vegetables.

Quail's eggs baked in potatoes (Serves 4)
12 small potatoes, weighing about 2oz/80g each
2oz/50g unsalted butter, melted
1 dozen quail's eggs
salt and pepper

Wash and scrub the potatoes. With a melon baller, scoop out a sizeable hollow (quail egg size) in each potato, and remove a thin slice from the bottom to allow it to stand flat. Put the potatoes in a pan of boiling, salted water, bring back to the boil and cook until the potatoes are just done. Drain. Brush the potatoes



inside and out with melted butter, season lightly, and stand them on an oiled baking tray. Carefully crack a quail's egg into each potato. Place in the top half of a pre-heated oven, gas mark 4, 180°C, 350°F and bake for 8 to 10 minutes. Serve immediately. The balls scooped out of the potatoes can also be cooked with the hollowed out potatoes, drained then finished off to a good crisp gold colour by frying them in olive oil and then used for a decoration for another dish. Alternatively, use them up in a mixed vegetable soup.

Parsley and chive sauce for grilled or poached fish (Serves 4)
1½oz/40g bunch parsley
½ pint/280ml single cream
2 shallots, peeled and finely chopped
1oz/30g unsalted butter
2½ oz/50ml dry white wine
a dozen chive stalks
sea salt
freshly ground white pepper

Wash and dry the parsley thoroughly, either in a salad spinner or between layers of paper towels. Remove the stalks and put them in a small saucepan with the cream. Bring to the boil, remove from the heat, and allow to infuse for 15 to 20 minutes. Mean-

while, in another saucepan sweat the shallots in the butter until they are soft and translucent. Add the wine to the shallots, and cook until reduced to a tablespoon of liquid. Chop the parsley as finely as possible (a food processor is invaluable for this) and snip the chives very small. Strain the cream over the shallots and add the herbs. Cook for 5 minutes, add the salt and pepper to taste and serve with fish.

Steak, kidney and oyster pie

Start preparation the day before required (Serves 4)

1½lb/680g rump or blade steak
½ pt/280ml bitter or stout
½lb/230g kidney — veal, lamb or ox
12 pickling onions or large onion
1 tablespoon olive oil
1oz/30g seasoned flour
1 sprig parsley
1 sprig thyme
1 bay leaf

Trim the fat and gristle off the meat, and cut it into 1½in/2.5cm cubes. Put the meat in a bowl and marinate it for about an hour. Remove any fat from the kidney and the fine membrane. Cut out the central core, and cut the kidney into small chunks. Cover and refrigerate until required. Peel the onions and, in a heavy casserole, fry them in the olive oil until golden brown. Drain the marinade from the meat, and put to one side. Dry the beef thoroughly, and toss it in the seasoned flour. Fry until browned all over. Tie the herbs together and put them in the casserole with the beef and onion. Strain the marinade over the meat, and add half the stock. Bring to the boil, skim any foam from the surface, lower the heat, cover and simmer

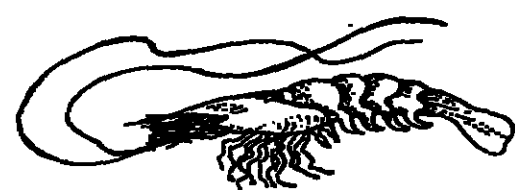
for 1-1½ hours. Toss the kidneys in seasoned flour, fry them briefly and add to the casserole. Season to taste, but remember that the oyster will be a little salty. Continue cooking until the meat is tender. Remove from the heat, cool as quickly as possible and chill overnight.

The next day, spoon the meat and onions into a suitable ovenproof dish and the jelly-like gravy into a small saucepan. Add the remaining ½ pint/140ml stock to the saucepan, bring to the boil and reduce until you have about ¼ pint/200ml liquid, enough to make the pie filling nice and juicy. Carefully open the oysters, and arrange these on top of the meat, distributing them in such a way that each portion of pie will contain some oysters when you cut it. Strain the oyster liquid over the filling, and pour the cooled reduced meat juices over it.

Roll out the pastry (not too thin), and cover the pie, pinching it round the rim of the pie dish to seal it. Cut off any overhanging pastry, and from it, stamp out some form of decoration, if you wish, to stick on top of the pie crust. Brush the pastry with the glaze, and bake in a pre-heated oven at gas mark 6, 200°C/400°F for 15 minutes. Turn the oven down to gas mark 4, 180°C/350°F, and bake for a further 20 minutes, moving the pie to a lower oven shelf if necessary.

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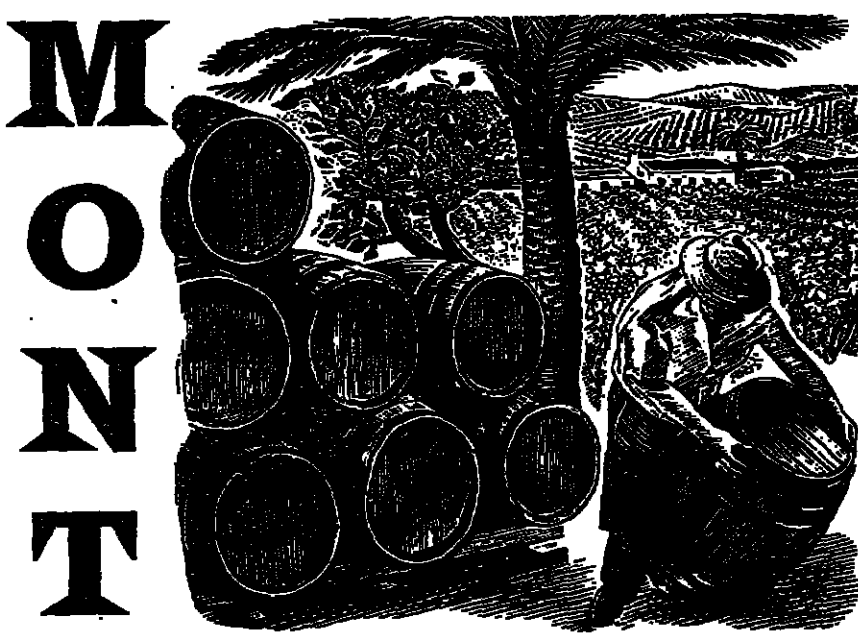


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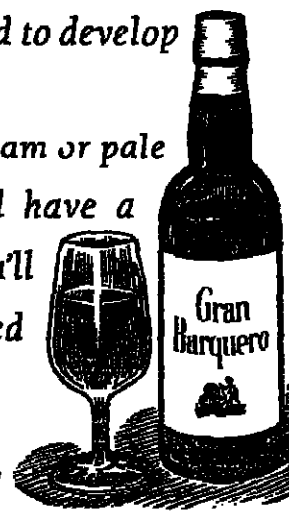


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TRAVEL

A rather pleasant Burgundy, I think

Corrida! The poster showed a monstrous animal with eyes of flame, muzzle foam-flecked, bearing down upon the spectator. The reality was a small black bull moving with cat-like grace. At times it attacked with terrifying speed and unpredictability, but mostly it was bored, perfunctory in a well-tried routine.

The arena was a makeshift ring in a village meadow a mile or so outside Cluny. The matadors were local lads impressing the local ladies — bobbing for apples, playing football, balancing on barrels with the bull as random hazard. The bull's attitude was that of one's attitude to wasps: all right to swat if they come near but not worth chasing on a hot afternoon.

The spectators were mostly locals, lots of small children jumping up and down. Painfully loud music from *Carmen* and the like, incongruous in that gentle scene. A summer Sunday afternoon, in southern Burgundy.

Burgundy is as much a place as an idea, one of the most complex evolutions in Europe's complex history. Created as a kind of buffer state between East Franks and West Franks when the Carolingian empire was divided in the 9th century, it has expanded and contracted over the following centuries — now expanding to touch both the North Sea and the Po Valley, including cities as diverse as Bruges and Pavia, now contracting to the heartland around Dijon.

Its dukes allied themselves with, or fought against, the French monarch as though they themselves were monarchs until Louis XI, the old Spider King, drew Burgundy into his web in the 1470s. Today, it is politically divided between two départements, Côte-d'Or in the north and Saône-et-Loire in the south. But it is still an entity. This is where Teutons meet Latin, north meets south, blending to form a unique mixture.

South Burgundy, below Dijon, is different again. For a start this is the wine capital not simply of France but of the

Russell Chamberlain takes a taste of the wine capital of the world to uncork a vintage holiday area

world. It comes as a distinct shock to realize that there is truly a village called Pommard. There is an additional delight to sit by the stream in the little town of Chablis and drink the cool nectar to which it gives its name.

Some time ago, staying in the great monastery of Cîteaux, I found that the wine casually served at table was from Nuits St George — not one of the great vintages, but sufficiently related to give a rather different viewpoint on the monastic life.

You pay for it, of course, literally. Even corner cafés tend to serve the great wines as a matter of course and the visiting Brit is startled to find himself paying more for wine than at home. You can specify, and get, *vin ordinaire*, of course, but that would be to lose a great experience as you come to another modest little village and find that its produce has a world famous name.

Here, too, are some of Europe's most important prehistoric sites, including one which has given its name to a culture. Looking for the vineyards of Pouilly-Fuissé, we approached by mistake from

the west through rather dull, heavily wooded hills. Suddenly there reared up, like some vast monument, an immense limestone pillar with the vineyards spread below it like a green skirt: The Rock of Solutré.

Excavations begun in 1866 have disclosed the bones of more than 100,000 wild horses ambushed and butchered for meat around 25,000 years ago. A brilliantly designed museum, recently opened, tells the story of the Solutrean culture. The problem of building a modern museum on an archaeological site was solved by carving it into the rock so that it is all but invisible from outside.

The silence and emptiness of the region was impressive, deeply refreshing but a touch eerie. Admittedly, this was the sacred month of August, when entire French cities empty themselves — but presumably if people leave A they must go to B, and Burgundy is heavily billed as a tourist area. Nevertheless, town after town was blissfully placid: there was a heady delight in parking in city centres at will and entering restaurants without booking.

The beautiful valleys, dreaming in the summer sun, were silent except for the scream of the TGV hurtling through at 180mph with the frequency of underground trains.

This showpiece train has killed the local railway but, in recompense, there is a good bus service linking its major stations with outlying smaller towns so that while a car is useful, it is not vital. The Saône runs down through the region, linking up with the Rhône at Lyons to form one of Europe's major highways. River buses run frequently from Mâcon to Beaune.

The towns and cities each wear the region's livery of Romanesque architecture, while each retains its clear-cut identity.

It is hard to pick out the "best". Beaune is overtly touristy, but none the worse for that as tourism is tightly controlled.

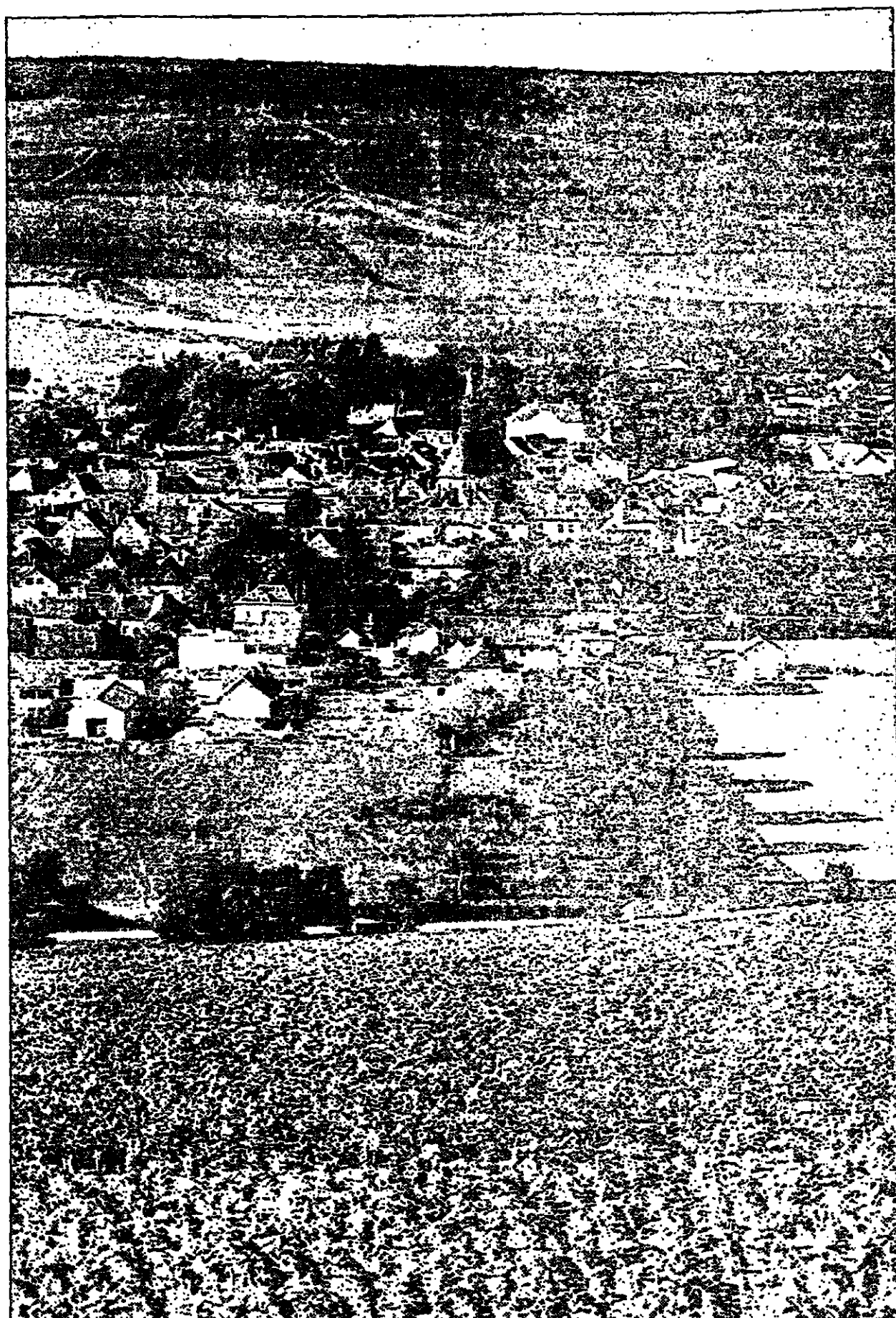
The showpieces here are the superb 15th century hospice and the mansion of the dukes of Burgundy, now a wine museum.

Downstream, almost clinging to the river, is Tournus. It is a tiny town of narrow streets where the vast abbey church of St Philibert has the true austere majesty of Romanesque. Mâcon is a thriving modern city, the *chef-lieu* but with excellently presented and preserved antiques.

Autumn has impressive Roman remains and you can spend a lifetime studying its 12th century cathedral with its extraordinary carvings.

Impossible to choose the "best", but my favourite is undoubtedly Cluny, village-small but urban-elegant. The way in which even the ruins of the once titanic abbey still influence the town is reminiscent of Glastonbury.

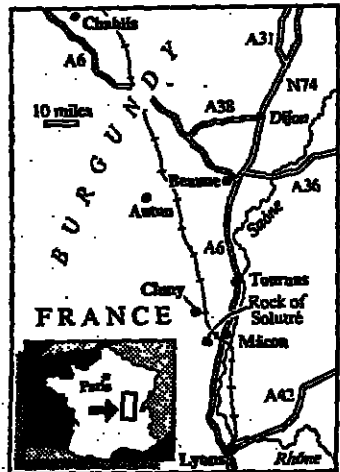
Quite half the town within the circuit of the walls seem to be park and green space but within the walls, too, are some of the rarest survivals in Europe: entire streets of ordinary houses clad in the majesty of Romanesque.



Pleasure for the palate: it is a delight to sit by the stream in Chablis, sipping the wine to which the town has given its name

TRAVEL NOTES

We stayed in a rented farm outside Cluny with accommodation for seven people. The cost was £700 for two weeks, including the Channel crossing for one car with four passengers. The TGV (Train à Grande Vitesse) speeds from Paris to Mâcon in about one-and-a-half hours, and from there to Cluny in about one hour. It is a good idea to book but there is 'instant self-service' at most main stations.



Air Europe lands more Gatwick flights

Air Europe is moving in smartly this winter to become a dominant operator of scheduled services out of Gatwick following the take-over of British Caledonian by British Airways.

In October 1987 it operated only 11 scheduled services a week, but from the end of this month it will have 17 flights a day. Main destinations from Gatwick this winter will be Paris with 31 flights a week, Brussels with 22 and Munich with 13. Air Europe also plans to introduce new Gatwick services next spring to Rome, Oslo, Stockholm, Barcelona and Malaga. (More information, 0345 444737).

Heartrate hotel

Healthy holidays at a choice of 35 spa and resort hotels throughout the world are offered in a new programme from SRS Hotels (01-486 5754). Options include hot mud-pack treatment at the Grand Hotel Trieste & Vic-

TRAVEL NEWS

toria, near Padua, while thalassotherapy water massage forms part of "The Body Hotel" at Le Sport Hotel in St Lucia. More traditional spas featured include Baden-Baden and Evian-les-Bains. Sample price for 14 nights' full board and complete therapy course at the Thermal Hotel Aqua on Hungary's Lake Balaton, is about £380, excluding transport.

Ski fares frozen

Fares on the winter Calais-Motiers Motorail service have been frozen for the coming season, with the single fare for a car and two passengers starting at £171, including coach hire. The service, introduced last winter for British skiers, will leave Calais at 8pm every Friday from December 23 to April 7 (Further information on 01-809 3518).

Premier service

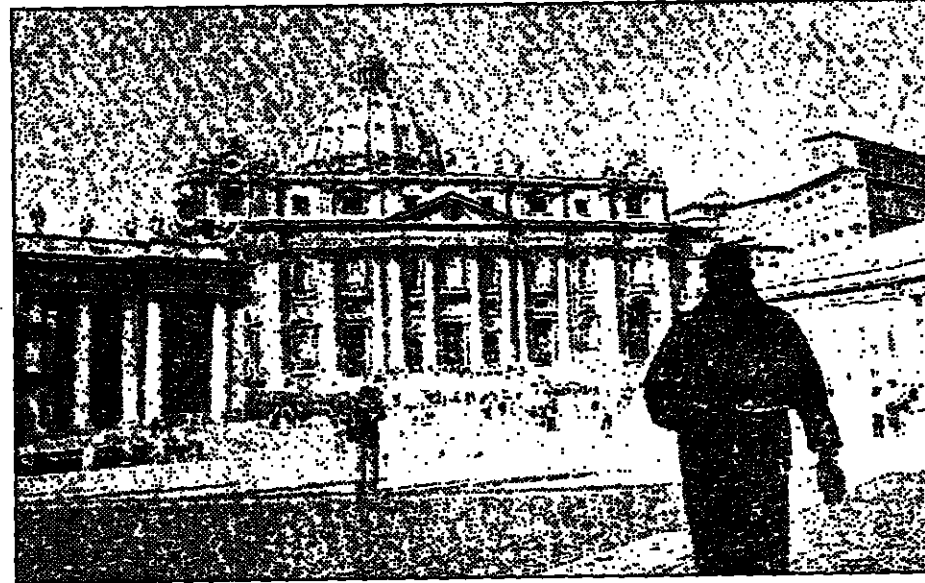
A 24-hour travel booking service for Barclay's Bank's 100,000 Premier Card holders has been introduced by Hogg Robinson Travel. Air and hotel bookings can be made by telephone, and cardholders will qualify for discounted air fares and special hotel rates. (Information: 01-897 2525).

Algarve golf

The long-established Travel Club of Upminster has produced a programme of winter golfing holidays on the Portuguese Algarve for the first time. The operator has negotiated discounts on green fees ranging from 10 per cent to 100 per cent. Car hire is included in most prices, and on charter flights from Gatwick. Started to Faro a golf bag weighing less than 33lb can be carried in addition to the normal 44lb luggage allowance. Typical price for an apartment holiday at Vilamoura ranges between £196 and £290 for two weeks. (Information: 04022 25000).

Rare bits of Wales

A new Wales Tourist Board brochure, *Great Little Breaks in Wales*, lists more than 300 accommodation bargains as well as visitor attractions which stay open for most of the year. (Information: 0222 499989).



Vatican vacation: Rome is one of the new destinations to be offered by Air Europe in the spring

Scottish fare cuts

New low air fares between London and Scotland will be available when Air UK takes over the former British Caledonian routes from Gatwick to Edinburgh and Glasgow on October 30. A £77 Apex return fare has to be booked and paid for not less than 14 days before travel and must include a Saturday night stopover. There is also a £99 return fare which can be booked at any time, but outward and return journeys must be completed within three days. Air UK will also

offer a £35 single Skylink fare which can be booked only on the day before travel. (Information: 0345 666777).

Rice and tea tours

A two-week tour of exotic gardens in Java is included in the new 1989 programme from Badger Garden Tours (0908 367269). Among the sites to be visited is the botanical garden of Bogor, which contains 15,000 species of trees and 5,000 varieties of orchid. Tea plantations and rice paddies are also on the itinerary. Tour price is £1,949.

Air delay pledge

Martyn Holidays, which specialises in Mediterranean island holidays, has come up with a compensation scheme to protect its customers if this year's air traffic control delays are repeated in 1989. The company has promised to pay up to £60 or give holiday-makers an option to cancel without penalty if airport delays exceed 24 hours. (Information: 01-847 5031).

Philip Ray

Freedom every Friday

TRAVEL BOOKS

● *The Holiday Which? Guide to Weekend Breaks* (Hodder & Stoughton, £9.95) does more than catalogue pleasant inns and hotels at random. It focuses on 12 cities and 18 areas of coast and countryside from the Stour Valley to Snowdonia. There is also a useful chart which identifies the strong points of the areas covered, along with timely reminders on when to go to see the daffodils or duck the crowds. Whether you are looking for a breath of fresh air, a second honeymoon, somewhere to take the children for a few days or somewhere to escape them, this guide will help make all the planning straightforward.

● *The Atlas of Natural Wonders* by Rupert O. Matthews (Ebury Press, £16.95) is not written for children but it is a book I would have loved to own from the age of about 10. The world's most spectacular phy-

sical geography is dramatically pictured and plainly explained. Each phenomenon, from the Great Western Ery of the Sahara to Cheddar Gorge, by way of Greenland's iceberg factory, has a short chapter to itself which makes it easy to dip into and yet at the same time can provide much for serious examination. Could this be ideal bedtime reading for inky snots?

● *The Totorone Voyage* (Century Hutchinson, £15.95) recounts Gerry Clark's circumnavigation of Antarctica in a 10-metre wooden yacht. He sailed 38,413 nautical miles, visited the wild and beautiful extremities of three continents, the rugged islands in between, and nearly did not make it home to New Zealand. Horrific storms in the southern oceans left the boat all but

helpless and its master in despair. If the pictures of rigging thickly frosted with ice reassure fairweather sailors that the finest kind of travel is that undertaken from the armchair, toddler-sized king penguin chicks tapping up candles from the crew will have bird-men looking out the brochures for faraway wildlife tours.

● A second edition of *Working in Ski Resorts, Europe* by Victoria Pybus and Charles James (Vacation Work Publications, Oxford, £5.95) comes too late to help most British tour companies in the Alps this season. But there is more to winter sports jobs than being a rep or a chalet girl. Read on for how to get the best jobs still to be found and where to find them.

Shona Crawford Poole

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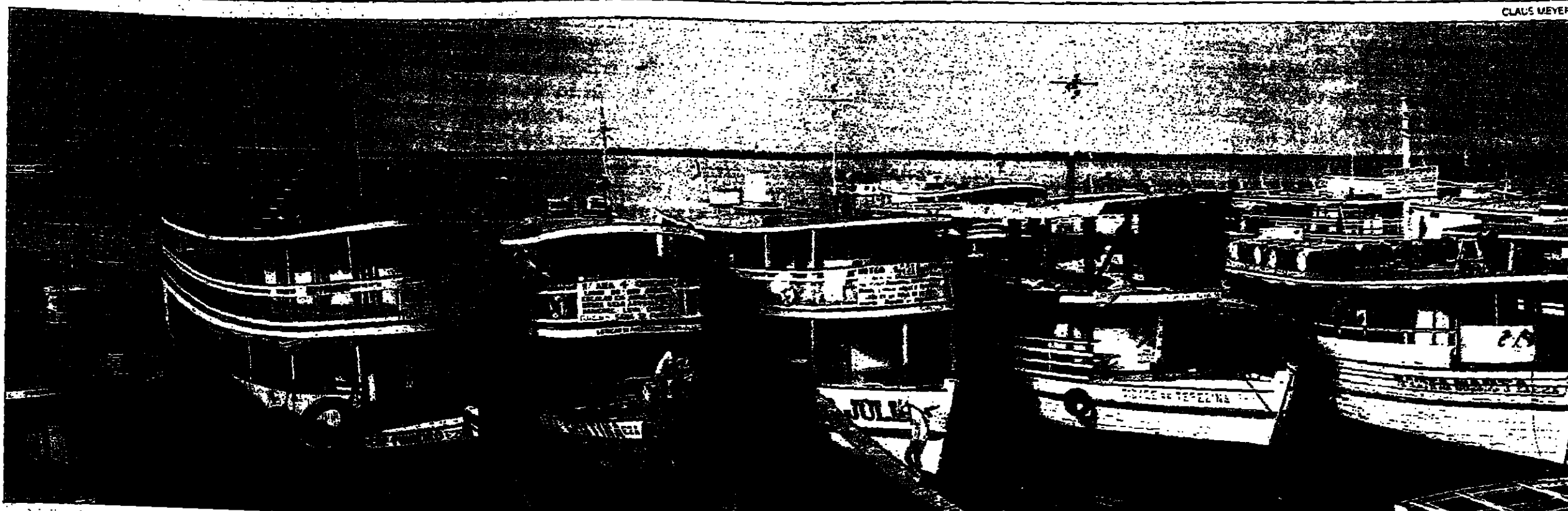
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TRAVEL

CLAUDE MEYER



Samba-blasters up the Amazon

Early morning is the lively time on the dockside at Manaus. Dawn is when the river-boats come nosing in to the quay, each arrival initiating a fresh outburst of chaos. Bare-chested porters rush up greasy gangplanks, their heads and shoulders loaded with stalks of bananas, sacks of flour, rubber boots, high-piled crates of soft drinks, strings of fowls and great balls of latex. How their skin bodies can bear such weights is beyond me.

From time to time a couple of porters will collide and one will headlong into the murky waters of the Rio Negro, but the rush and noise goes on unchecked. The humid Amazon air coats everyone with a thin film of sweat. Samba pounds from a dozen loud-speakers. Sometimes great gusts of rain sweep in across the river, and within seconds the gutters are awash until even the vultures, pecking about in the slime, spread their black wings and flap away to drier quarters.

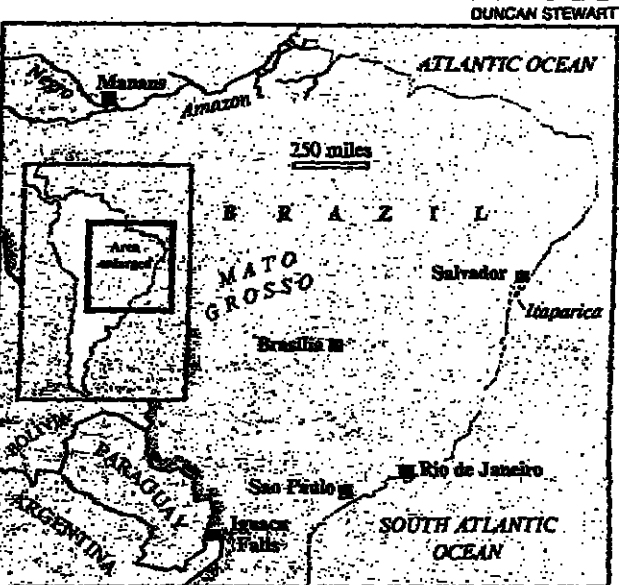
Manaus is a jungle city, a river port set a thousand miles from the sea. It is a free port, a mecca for those Brazilians in need of a new samba-blast, and the *entrepôt* for the endless forest of central Brazil. It stands on the Rio Negro, a tributary of the Amazon, and dates from 1669. Its finest days came at the turn of the century, when Brazil was the sole source of rubber for the rapidly-expanding automobile industries of Europe and North America.

For a few short years Manaus boomed. The rubber barons made and spent vast fortunes, while their Indian tappers perished in droves collecting the latex from trees scattered deep in the jungle. Then the British intervened.

Although the rubber trade was jealously protected, 70,000 rubber-plant seeds were spirited away from Manaus to the coast and sent by steamer to England. Propagated at Kew, 2,000 plants were sent to Malaya and planted there in orderly, accessible rows. Soon the Malayan rubber industry flourished and that of Brazil collapsed, taking Manaus with it. The city mouldered in the jungle until the free port was opened in 1967.

Short-lived as it was, the rubber boom left relics which still draw visitors to the town. The Rio Negro Palace, a

In the port of Manaus, the rubber barons got rich quick, beat back the jungle and built themselves an opera house. Rob Neillands gets a taste for the heady Brazilian mix



splendid confection built by a German rubber baron, now houses the State Government, the Customs House was built in Liverpool and shipped out in sections, as was the floating dock, and my favourite, the municipal market by the quayside, was modelled on Les Halles in Paris. It is a riot of wrought-iron.

The best-known relic is the Opera House, the *Teatro Amazonas*, a handsome domed building with a multi-coloured glazed tile roof. It was built in 1896, with support from the local community and regardless of expense. The columns came from England, the crystal chandeliers from France, the Baroque decor from Italy, the seating from Spain; it is still a remarkable place.

The *Ballet Russe* and Jennie Lind were just two of the star performers and companies who made their way up the Amazon to perform here before the balloon burst. Boom and bust. It is a very Brazilian tradition, and even though Manaus is once again throbbing with life, the jungle is waiting in the wings.

In spite of recent restoration

sallied forth by boat to see the Meeting of the Waters, where the black Rio Negro and the muddy Amazon stream flow side by side unmingled for several miles.

After three days in Manaus my tour went on, via Brasília, the current capital, to Salvador which is a gem. Like Rio, Salvador was once the capital. Today the old city on the hill is a curious, crumbling relic of colonial times, although the new town around the *mercado modelo* by the harbour is quite modern and very lively. We had some notable meals in Salvador, in the backstreets of the Barra quarter. The spicy seafood of Bahia is said to be the best in Brazil. An endless dinner for four cost just £15, including the wine.

Rio was the stepping stone back to the First World, and a city that improves on closer acquaintance. It has the glorious beaches of Copacabana and Ipanema, marvellous shopping and excellent food. Getting there may be expensive but the living is cheap, especially for those visitors who scorn the official exchange rate for that of the black market or *parallel* rate.

Leaving cameras and jewellery in the hotel safe, Rio is a city in which to walk, shopping at the Rio Sul centre, ambling past the eye-popping girls of Ipanema, eating at *Martins* or *Marcelina* on the Avenida Atlântica. Everyone should take the cable car up to the Sugar Loaf and the rack railway up the Corcovado for a closer look at the great Christ. My advice is to stay streetwise and prowling about the city in little groups. That's the way to see a different side of Rio, and in Brazil, as elsewhere, it's the differences you will remember when the holiday is over.

TRAVEL NOTES

Kuoni Travel (0306-885954) runs a 14-night *Brazilian Affair* tour taking in Rio, Manaus, Salvador, São Paulo and the great falls at Iguaçu. It costs from £1,398 in five-star hotels, including all flights but not excursions. Light, comfortable clothing and a copy of the excellent guide *The South American Handbook* (Travel & Trade Publications, £18.95) would be useful. Dollar travellers' cheques are the most acceptable currency.

BRUNO BARBEY

Roll up: river-boats line the quay at Manaus, where the Rio Negro and the Amazon flow side by side like oil and vinegar



Banana drama: porters at the crowded Manaus docks have been known to collide and fall into the river. Right, the market

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Manaus's opera house: built with columns from England, chandeliers from France, decor from Italy, and seating from Spain

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SATURDAY OCTOBER 15 1988

A lesson that Christie should heed

COMMENTARY

David Miller
Chief Sports Correspondent



It is high time that Linford Christie was advised to come to his senses and stop issuing demands for an apology from the International Olympic Committee over his positive drugs test in Seoul. The current controversy is damaging to the IOC, which is entitled to be offended, and in the long term damaging to British athletics and to Christie himself.

Unfortunately, at the root of the controversy lies the incompetence, not to say stupidity, of the British Amateur Athletic Board. If Christie is to receive any apology it is from the very people he is at present asking to assist in his protest against the IOC.

The inquiry being initiated by the British Olympic Association into the affair will reveal, I can predict, that the BAAAB itself could be to blame for Christie having been caught up in the web of the medical commission's testing during the Olympic Games firstly following the 200 metres, and now, according to Professor Arnold Beckett, of the

IOC medical commission, to some extent after the 100 metres in which Christie won, by default of Ben Johnson, the silver medalist. Beckett said on television on Thursday night that when, following the 200 metres, he re-tested Christie's 100 metres sample he found traces of the same drug - pseudo-ephedrine.

While the British athletics team were training in Japan prior to the Games, their officials were, I am reliably informed, given advice from London that the ginseng which Christie was known to be taking could not be guaranteed not to

contain pseudo-ephedrine, a banned substance. While Korean ginseng is "clean", Chinese or Japanese preparations of the supposedly health-giving root can be contaminated, and what Christie was taking was therefore regarded by the BOA as unsafe.

For some reason, however, the BOA warnings did not reach Christie and he continued taking unclean ginseng. Although only small quantities were involved, they were enough for him to be proved positive in testing in Seoul.

Evidence was accepted

Christie objects to comments by Prince Alexandre de Merode, the chairman of the Medical Commission, and by Beckett, who is on the drugs sub-commission, that he was given the benefit of the doubt. But neither he nor the BAAAB seem to understand the rules of the medical commission.

Pseudo-ephedrine is a declared banned substance. Christie was given the benefit of the doubt because the medical commission accepted his evidence that he was taking ginseng and not some other medication of performance enhancement. The medical commission, nevertheless, had the power to strip him of his medal if the decision had gone the other way.

Christie should be thankful that the BOA was prepared to fight his case, even though it did not start off as particularly clear-cut. Following the BOA's representation, sufficient members of the medical commission abstained from voting for Christie to be cleared of any guilt.

It is to be expected that Merode and Beckett are irate at this instance of what Merode has termed "imprudence" by the British. It is, moreover, quite impossible for the BOA, or Christie, to prove that the leaking of the news of his positive test to television was either by the

IOC or, indeed, was not by a member of the BOA or the BAAAB.

By the time the letters from the medical commission, informing the BOA of the positive tests on Brown and Christie, were handed to Dick Palmer, the British *chef de mission*, at 7.15 p.m. on September 29, a sufficient number of people unavoidably knew the facts for the source of the leak to be untraceable. Evidence suggests, it should be said, that the news leak on Johnson's test came from a laboratory technician to Agence France Press via a Korean newspaper source.

For the BOA to become involved in hostile relations with the medical commission is the worst possible background for any future case which may arise, such as Christie's, in which an athlete inadvertently is tested positive. Christie's experience provides the clearest lesson to the BAAAB that no possible loophole can afford to be left open in the interests of their competitors.

Liverpool pair are out of contention for England game

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

John Barnes and Peter Beardsley, the most ineffective individuals in England's undistinguished performances during the European Championship finals, may not be able to redeem themselves on Wednesday. Both are injured and considered doubtful for the World Cup qualifying tie against Sweden at Wembley. Beardsley will not train until at least Monday. The swelling around his groin strain is so visible that Fred Street, England's physiotherapist, could not imagine how he had finished the Littlewoods Cup tie against Walsall in midweek. Barnes, suffering from a sore hamstring, is also to be rested, probably until tomorrow.

Bobby Robson, who had to summon another goalkeeper yesterday, was relieved that the two forwards were not pushed into appearing for Liverpool today. "I don't know whether they would have played but there is so much pressure to turn out on Saturdays. The chances are that they would have been ruled out," he said.

Their availability is nevertheless uncertain and, since Lineker is involved in Barcelona's fixture against Real Betis tomorrow, England's manager has reinforced his attack. Smith, who had initially been called up to practise with the party, has become an official member of a depleted squad.

Shilton's deputies were missing. Woods, another victim of a groin strain, is expected to recover but Scaman, the third goalkeeper, has been withdrawn. His place has been offered to Beasant, who will relish the recollection of his last visit to Wembley. He saved a penalty there for Wimbledon in last season's FA Cup final.

Bryan Robson was also absent. The captain, whose wife underwent a minor operation yesterday, was granted temporary leave. The squad,

most of whom are to join the audience at Loftus Road this afternoon, will not be fully assembled until some 48 hours before the opening of the World Cup campaign.

England's manager has no doubts, however, about the depth of the collective spirit which will envelop his chosen men. "We feel that we owe the country a favour," he said. "We know that we didn't do as well as we could have done during the summer."

"That is over and there is no point moaning about it, but all of the players are desperate to do something about it. There isn't one player in the squad who will freeze on Wednesday. I can tell you. If they didn't feel that way, we'd be in trouble."

"They all want to be picked. We've all experienced a moment when you wish you could do something over again. This is the time. We were close to despair in West Germany and now there is a very strong feeling of desire. We want to put things right for the crowd."

No one has a greater incentive than Barnes and Beardsley, who fell so far short of fulfilling expectations four months ago. Before attempting to erase the memory of their feeble contributions, they must first dismiss the question marks that follow their names on the probable team sheet.

● UEFA's organizing committee has recommended that Sweden hosts the 1992 European championship finals it was announced yesterday.

● Ian Brightwell, the Manchester City midfielder, has withdrawn through a back injury from the England under-21 squad for the game against Sweden at Highfield Road on Tuesday.

Lake, his club colleague, will also be withdrawn from the squad if he fails a fitness test on a knee injury before tomorrow's game at Plymouth.

Molby, Liverpool's emergency centre back, joins an increasing list of injuries at Anfield. He sustained another foot injury in the midweek Littlewoods Cup win at Walsall and has been withdrawn from the Denmark squad for their match next week in Greece.

Scots in trouble

By Clive White

The Scotland squad, already weakened by the loss of Durrant and Gillespie, was given further bad news yesterday as they prepared for next Wednesday's World Cup qualifying match against Yugoslavia at Hampden Park. Andy Roxburgh, the Scotland manager, has learned of injuries to Gough, the Rangers defender, and Gallacher, the Dundee United winger. Gough has a hamstring complaint, Gallacher, a groin injury and McClair is also doubtful with a back injury. "The absence of Ian Durrant and Gary Gillespie is an

incredible blow. Gary will be in plaster for seven weeks. Now we have more problems," Roxburgh said.

Wales have lost the services of Hodges for their World Cup qualifier against Finland. The Watford player has a hamstring injury.

Molby, Liverpool's emergency centre back, joins an increasing list of injuries at Anfield. He sustained another foot injury in the midweek Littlewoods Cup win at Walsall and has been withdrawn from the Denmark squad for their match next week in Greece.

Revenge is so sweet for Faldo

By Mitchell Platts, Golf Correspondent

Nick Faldo yesterday fisted the air in sheer joy as he holed a putt of 14 feet on the last green at St Andrews to complete a memorable win over Sandy Lyle in the Dunhill Cup.

It assured England of a semi-final match against Ireland, who overcame the United States 2-1, and for Faldo it diluted the disappointment of losing to Lyle in the final of the World Match Play Championship earlier this week.

Faldo trailed Lyle, who had five birdies in his first eight holes, by one shot with two to play. By then Mark James had won for England and Gordon Brand junior for Scotland, so the result of the match depended upon Faldo and Lyle.

At the 17th, both players were in the rough, but Faldo escaped with his four courtesy of an exquisite chip which put the ball to three feet. Then came victory at the last on a heavenly day that provided the backdrop for a day of pure theatre which for the luckless Mark Mondland, of Wales, included being buried in the "sands of Nakajima" as he took seven to escape from the 17th hole "Road" bunker.

It was shades of the Ryder Cup in more ways than one, and America's reputation as a golfing nation received another buffeting. Eamonn Darcy, the hero of the last green at Mullinfield Village little more than one year ago, showed sheer delight as with a putt of 30 feet at the 17th he salvaged the par that made Ireland's victory certain.

Darcy did not drop a shot in compiling his excellent 66. He scampered home by two shots from Curtis Strange, who also played flawless golf for a 68

Card of the course

Hole	Yds	Par	Hole	Yds	Par
1	370	4	10	342	4
2	411	4	11	372	4
3	371	4	12	316	3
4	463	4	13	457	4
5	424	4	14	457	4
6	416	4	15	413	4
7	372	3	16	481	4
8	372	3	17	481	4
9	356	4	18	354	4

Out 3,601 36 In 3,422 36

Total yesterday: 6,993 Par: 72

after Roman Rafferty (71) had moved past Mark McCumber (72) on the last green. Des Smythe and Chip Beck had an honourable half with each scoring 71.

Strange, the US Open champion, had boasted, though it must be emphasized not in a conceited way, on the eve of the event that this was the strongest team that his country had ever sent to the Dunhill Cup. That might be the case, but if it is then right now their stature in world golf, following two successive wins by Europe in the Ryder Cup, is as much in question as the Sony World Rankings which gave the United States the position of No. 1.

Ireland's victory was plotted at the bar - where else? - with Darcy, the captain, and Smythe sharing a pint or two. Smythe said: "I told Eamonn to phone Roman and see who he would like to play. We're old pros so we've got to look after the younger member of the team." Then Darcy gave his two team members a typically Irish battle cry - "Now listen to me and do what you like after that!"

In fact, Rafferty was responsible for easing the burden on Darcy and Smythe when he recovered from being one shot behind with two to play. McCumber contributed to his own downfall by dropping a shot at the 17th and Rafferty made sure of victory by holing



On their way to another epic battle: Faldo, left, and Lyle, the captains, complete the first hole at St Andrews yesterday

from seven feet at the last.

Darcy matched Strange's outward 33 and accelerated ahead with three birdies in four holes from the 11th. He holed from 22 feet for a two at the 11th, but the 13th was, perhaps, more decisive. Darcy struck a fine three-iron ap-

proach there from 190 yards out and from 15 feet he holed for an important birdie.

If the Irish eyes were smiling, then the roar of the dragon was muted. Wales lost, possibly because Mondland took 10 at the 17th, after having been in front in each

match at the turn. Ian Woosnam went on to beat Greg Norman with a 71 to a 73, but David Lewellyn lost to Rodger Davis on the last green following Mondland's demise against David Graham. RESULTS (leading position in brackets): Australia (5) vs Wales (6), 2-1 (D Graham vs M Mondland, 67-76; R Davis vs D Woosnam, 73-71).

England (8) vs US (1), 2-1-4. (R Rafferty vs M McCumber, 71-72; D Smythe vs C Beck, 71-71; E Darcy vs C Strange, 66-68). Spain (2) vs Japan (7), 3-0 (S Ballessteros vs N Otsu 72-74; J Rivera vs H Matsushita, 69-68; J-M Chubusti vs T Otsu, 68-69). Scotland (5) vs Scotland (4), 2-1 (B Lane lost to G Brand 67, 73-71; M James vs C McCumber, 69-71; N Faldo vs A Lyle, 67-68).

Blow for Brands Hatch

Brands Hatch, which had already lost the British Grand Prix, is now without its sports car race date for 1989, it was revealed in the motorsport governing body's General Assembly of the World Council in Paris this week (David Tremayne writes).

FISA announced wholesale changes to the World Sports Prototype championship, which will now be restricted to one race per country. Silverstone retains its May date.

The FISA president, Jean-Marie Balestre, will face strong criticism now that Jaguar, which won the manufacturer's championships in 1987 and this season, will not be represented on the Manufacturers' Commission.

FISA also confirmed that the European Touring Car Championships has been axed, and that it will not grant Birmingham a track licence unless it changes its pits and pit lane for next year's F3000 Super Prix.

Edgar completes successful season with Sure Thing

By Jenny MacArthur

Maria Edgar, who became the European junior champion in July, completed a spectacular season by finishing first on her own Everest Sure Thing and third on Lord Incheape's Everest Minika in yesterday's Oakley Coachbuilders Young Rider of the Year competition at Wembley Arena. Alison Bradley who, like Miss Edgar, was a member of the silver medal-winning team at the junior European championships in France was the runner-up on Golpille.

Miss Edgar, who was bred to show jump - her father is the trainer, Ted, and her mother the international show jumper Liz - is a tough and determined competitor. Before winning her junior title she had already proved her ability to take on the seniors when winning her first grand prix at Windsor in May. Her mother was among the contestants.

Her major victories have all come on the seven-year-old Everest Sure Thing, a big, rangy, Dutch bred horse, sired by her father as a four-year-old. "I couldn't ride him to start with," Miss Edgar

confessed yesterday. "He was too big and slow as a novice. Now he's getting wilder and leaps everywhere."

He had already displayed his talent this week at Wembley when winning the Everest Speed stakes on Monday, a win which qualified them to compete in the senior classes for the rest of the week. Two days later they were second in the NM Financial Speed Stakes - beaten by her former horse, Invaluable Lad, whose sale to Nigel Coupe clearly still rankles.

Later, David Bowen, from Lancashire, became one of the elite few to beat John Whitaker at the show when he and San Francisco won the Everest Double Glazing Accumulator ahead of Peter Richardson, on Brown Group Solomon. Joe Turie, a member of the Olympic show jumping team, finished third on his Olympic reserve horse, Country Classics Kruger.

Robert Smith was still beaming yesterday after his magnificent win with Brook Street City Tycoon, his high jump specialist in Thursday nights NM Financial Pui-

sance. Smith, who won £3,200, was the only one to clear the wall at 7ft. Although this was not the highest the pair have jumped together - they cleared 7ft 6in in Lucerne last year - their final leap required skilful horsemanship by Smith.

● Alex Atcock, the head of the veterinary department at the International Equestrian Federation, confirmed yesterday that next month's World Cup Show in Barcelona has been cancelled following the deaths of 25 horses in the past week in Southern Spain from a disease showing "typical clinical symptoms of African horse sickness."

RESULTS (Young Rider of the Year): Everest Sure Thing (M Edgar, 6 in 27.672), Golpille (A Bradley, 6 in 28.492), Everest Minika (M Edgar, 6 in 30.265). Everest Double Glazing Accumulator: San Francisco (D Bowen, 34.292), Brown Group Solomon (P Richardson, 33.713), Country Classics Kruger (J Turie, 33.740). Everest Speed Stakes (Wednesday night): Brook Street City Tycoon (R Smith, 92.5), Buttery (P Freeman, 92.5), 4-5 Bay (C Gillingham, 92.5). Everest Double Glazing Accumulator: San Francisco (D Bowen, 34.292), Brown Group Solomon (P Richardson, 33.713), Country Classics Kruger (J Turie, 33.740). Everest Speed Stakes (Thursday night): Brook Street City Tycoon (R Smith, 92.5), Buttery (P Freeman, 92.5), 4-5 Bay (C Gillingham, 92.5). Everest Double Glazing Accumulator: San Francisco (D Bowen, 34.292), Brown Group Solomon (P Richardson, 33.713), Country Classics Kruger (J Turie, 33.740).

Three nations tournament planned

By Sydney Friskin

Approval has been given in principle by the International Hockey Federation (FIH) to England, West Germany and the Netherlands participating in a new three nations tournament, on the lines of the Five Nations tournament in rugby, early next year.

Making this announcement at a council meeting of the Hockey Association in London yesterday, Phil Appleyard, the president, re-

ported on the Olympic tournament in Seoul.

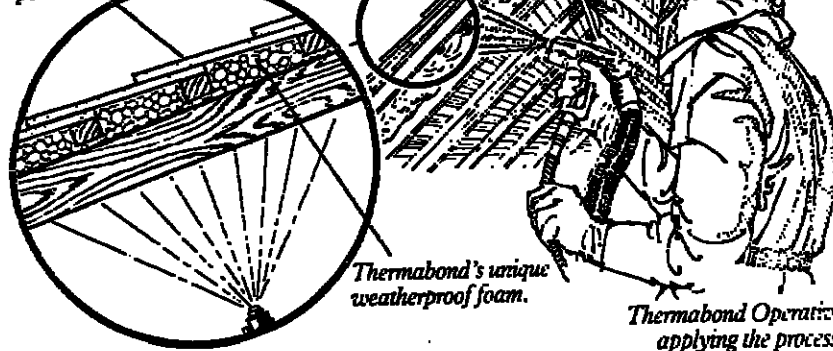
Reports by the management committee were accepted by the council. It was noted that the teams to play in the four nations tournament in Amsterdam in March 1989, at senior and under-21 level, would be the Netherlands, England, Pakistan and one other country.

It was also noted that the Australian senior team would play three matches against England from June 1 to 4 in Lancashire, Birmingham and Luton and that it was hoped to sign a sponsor for this series.

The process of finding a suitable site for a national hockey centre continues. It was stated that at the next council meeting in January at least two probable sites would be announced from a short-list already in hand.

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The prize bloom in snooker's hothouse

Stephen Hendry begins the defence of his Rothmans international snooker title this week. Andrew Longmore charts the rise of the natural heir to Steve Davis

It's hard to remember that Stephen Hendry is still only 19. After just three years as a professional he is the fourth best snooker player in the world and his hang-dog Stan Laurel expressions have become as much part of snooker's theatre as the scowling Alex Higgins and the deadpan Steve Davis.

In a way, Hendry is snooker's equivalent of the Olympic gymnast, a combination of physical poise and youthful innocence which would be considered freakish in any other walk of life.

He plays with the measured calm of the old sea-dog, has a mental strength surpassed only by Steve Davis and Cliff Thorburn and, by his own admission, is just one step from being the complete pro. Most disarming of all to opponents and interviewers alike, the steel is hidden behind a fresh face and as clear a pair of blue eyes that any mother-in-law could wish from the boy next door.

No wonder, during his first hesitant seasons as a professional, his elders were reduced to sweating incompetence at the prospect of defeat.

But this week the worm will turn a fraction. In the Rothmans International tournament at Reading, Hendry will face the burden of expectation for almost the first time in his career — he is the defending champion.

"I will be the target and it will be difficult. Two seasons ago I was playing the top players and all the pressure was on them, but now everyone is starting to play better against me. I won't know what it feels like being the defending champion until the tournament starts, but I don't think it will bother me too much. I'll just have to get tougher," he says, with the



Waiting for his lost youth to catch up on him: Stephen Hendry, aiming to retire at the top

same unerring assurance which he uses to catalogue his ambitions in the game: No 1 and world champion, preferably before 22 in time to make him the youngest ever.

No one who has studied Hendry's career would doubt that either of those aims will be fulfilled. Seven years ago in his Edinburgh home, as Davis was winning his first World Championship, Hendry had barely heard of snooker, let alone played it. But a month after being given a small table for Christmas, he had made a break of 50. A year later, at 13, he had compiled his first century on a full-size table and pocketed £100 for winning the British under-16 champ-

ionship. And all without a day's coaching.

He left school at 15, won the Scottish Amateur title twice in a row, and along the way attracted the attention of Ian Doyle, a self-made millionaire businessman and vice-president of the Scottish Amateur Snooker Association.

Doyle recalls: "Stephen was playing in one of my leisure centres and the first time I saw him I knew there was something magical. He had such presence and control, even at that age, that I couldn't believe what I was seeing. He seemed to be having a

conversation with the cue ball." Doyle is now Hendry's manager, financier, broker and father-figure. The only problem for Doyle then was that Hendry was contracted to an agent in Essex.

"I rang the agent and he said there were another 2,000 players as good as Stephen in London alone. He couldn't see what I was getting worked up about," Doyle bought out the remaining nine months of Hendry's contract for a four-figure sum, but even by his standards, it was a good investment. Last year, Stephen Hendry Snooker Ltd grossed £750,000 and there's plenty more to come.

But talent alone, as the pair

soon found out, has never been enough in a calculated game like snooker. As Hendry says, it's a game of the mind, played out agonisingly slowly for a man in a hurry. When Hendry inevitably turned professional at 16, he found no mercy.

Typically, instead of turning away he redoubled his practice and won the Scottish Professional title. It wasn't much, but it was a start. In 1986 he lost narrowly to Willie Thorne in the World Championships but played with such aplomb that he became a potential world champion overnight.

The following year he finished second in the prize money list, winning the Rothmans and four other big tournaments. Along that road, he proved a few doubters wrong.

"I thought he would be better off staying amateur for another two years," says Ray Edmonds, an experienced professional and commentator. "But he has learnt very quickly that there is more to the game than just potting balls."

In my opinion, Hendry is a more precocious talent than Davis was at the same age. He's not got the same intense application that Davis had, but he has his ability to produce his best at the right time. Stephen might not dominate the game as Davis has done for the past few years, but there's no doubt that he is the natural successor.

Hendry would regard such comparisons as the highest praise. While his heart wants to play like Jimmy White, his head knows he has to play like Davis. Having been beaten six nights on the trot in exhibition matches by Davis, he knows better than most what standards he has to live by. "He never gave me a chance, night after night, and I learnt so much. I was only 17, but he wanted to put me down the whole time."

"I've not got that consistency or that killer instinct yet. I should be beating players 5-0, but I'm letting them get away with 5-2 or 5-3."

The main problem for the young Scot now it seems will be keeping his mind firmly on the game. Whatever his manager may say about being just like any other 19-year-old, Hendry leads an unnatural hothouse life. When a simple journey to the tailor involves eight men in a huge Mercedes, when a brief disappearance is met with worried faces, when he knows exactly where he will be this time next year, when a whole economy is centred on a

"The first time I saw him I knew there was something magical"

19-year-old and a whole youth has been lost along the way, the price seems a high one.

Hendry is aware of what he has given up and, in his own sweet way, has rationalised it. His youth has not been lost, he says, just postponed. "I was practising four or five hours a day when all my friends were having a good time. But my dad said if I kept working hard, in the end I would be able to afford things they couldn't dream of. But really, I just loved playing snooker, to go down to the hall and beat people. That gave me a great buzz. Being in and out of hotels isn't as glamorous as people think but, hopefully, I will have achieved all I set out to do by my mid-twenties."

But where in all this does the real Stephen Hendry lie? Is he on his beloved golf course? Is he in the night club with a girl on each arm? Or is he at the snooker table getting a buzz? Hendry frowns at the questions and looks at his feet. "I'm happy with the way I'm living and I wouldn't change it. I'm basically lazy so I won't go on after I've reached the top."

In general, he doesn't mind being labelled — be it whizz-kid, freak or teenage hero. Hendry is a bit of all three. "As long as I'm not called a yuppie, I don't mind."



"I've not got that consistency or that killer instinct yet. I should be beating players 5-0, but I'm letting them get away with 5-2 or 5-3"

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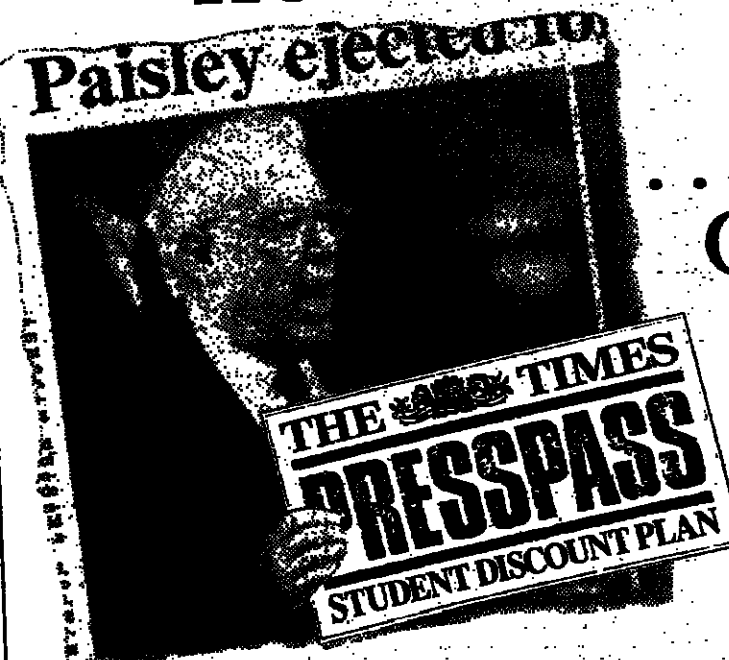
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THE TIMES

YACHTING

Exhilarating flight as mobile ballast

By Barry Pickthall

In a final ending before it takes place at the London International Boat Show, I was given the flight of a lifetime as mobile ballast aboard Peter de Savary's Blue Arrow America's Cup challenger.

Perched on the end of a backing and twitching, 65ft beam, my slingshot was only one lock on an exhilarating ride into the 21st century aboard this remarkable flier on which three winches and a pair of winches are used to hoist the boat over the water.

The pencil-thin skimmer with its outboard stabilizing foil is a remarkable example of British ingenuity, and though Blue Arrow's design and sailing team were crucially shut out from this year's America's Cup, they want to take a shot at breaking the 40-knot sailing barrier before the boat is handed over to the Science Museum.

As other speed freaks prepared more traditional craft for the annual speed week at Weymouth, Derek Clark, the project director, said this week's event proved the technology and would like to turn her into a speedboat for an attempt on the record next year.

Clark's plans involve taking a saw to one side of the stabilizing wing and converting Blue Arrow into a "one-way" boat — an attempt on the record — presently held by a sailboat — in Monte Bay next year.

On a day frustratingly absent of wind, Clark and his crew nevertheless provided an insight to the short-term potential of this remarkable craft which at one point was skimming across the water five times faster than the wind. Earlier in the week, when a member of Dennis Comer's Stars and Stripes crew went for a ride, the boat moved effortlessly up to 70 knots — with the potential for more.

But Clark's ambitions are intertwined with a far greater priority: to bring the America's Cup back to Britain. He is a central figure in the 22-strong design group that finalized proposals last week for a new class of yacht to contest the "Auld Mug". The recent battle between New Zealand's monohull and Dennis Comer's hi-tech catamaran, may have been a travesty in sportsmanship and fair play, but it has opened the lid on a Pandora's box of design ideas that the classic 12-metre yachts traditionally used.

In the America's Cup can do little to satisfy.

The alternative proposals, though, are not just for modern, light-displacement 74-foot yachts with a towering sail plan appear to have won the backing of the majority of "challengers" who make their claim at a meeting in London next month.

Unlike the 12-metre, whose design has been developed around a rule drawn up by a committee of politicians, the new designs have not speed, agility and excitement at the head of their priority list.

The result, as the concept drawing produced for *The Times* by the yacht designer, Rob Humphreys, shows, is an eye-catching class of boat with pleasing lines.

Slightly shorter than the biggest offshore racing yachts, the Cup boats will carry a tall, thin 100-foot mast, which, coupled with a displacement 30 per cent lighter than the offshore maxis, guarantees a faster, all-round performance.

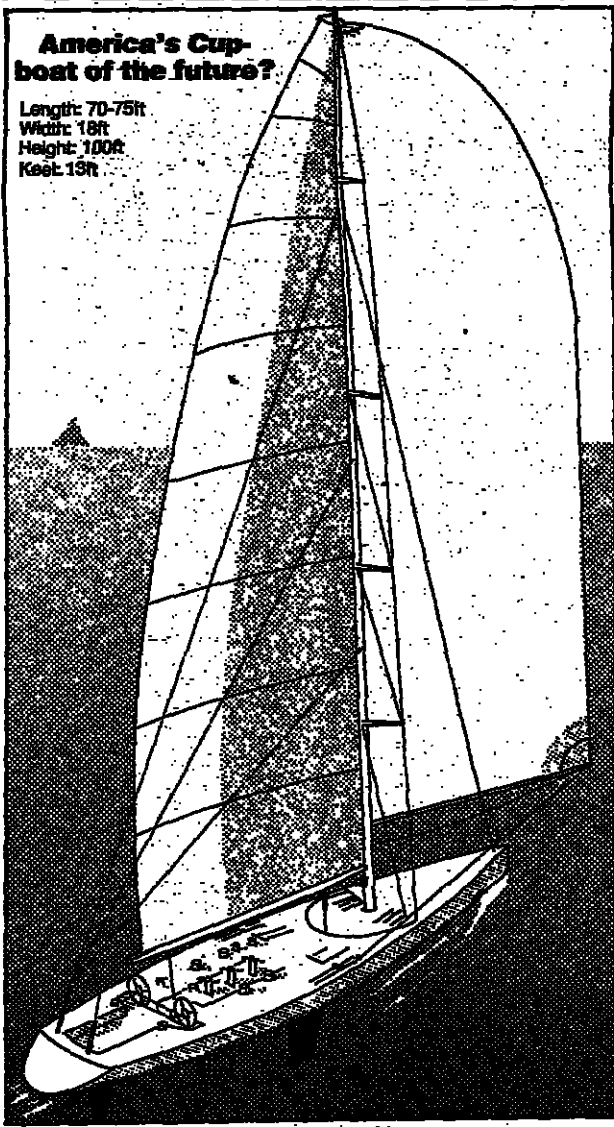
Where they will be fastest is downwind, when these fractionally rigged boats will not billow overhead genies measuring 4,500 square feet on smaller poles that will project well forward of the bow.

The excitement comes in handling such huge sail areas. Unlike the maxis, which carry a crew of 25 or more, these Cup boats are limited to 14 plus an extra place for the owner. "It will certainly test crews to the limits, even in the light air of San Diego," Clark promises.

The Cup boats will also offer much greater relevance to the rest of the sailing fleet than the present crop of 12-metre yachts, which bear little resemblance to any production yachts.

"These boats will be a test-bed for a great many new ideas, helping to develop fully-battened sails that last long, and carbon-fibre spars that may even be cheaper than custom-made alloy masts," Clark suggests.

The one cloud hovering over the proposals is the stand that the defending San Diego Yacht Club is likely to take on the issue. It is no secret that Dennis Comer and his group favour a continuation in 12-metres, to take full advantage of their long association and success in the class.



America's Cup boat of the future?
Length: 70-75ft
Width: 18ft
Height: 100ft
Keel: 15ft

David Powell talks to a blind runner who looks beyond Seoul

Matthews at double for treble

To his opponents, Bob Matthews is the *Said Aquila* of their arena. A man who has blazed a trail of middle distance world records and international titles and to whom, in his build-up for Seoul, it has been unthinkable that he should return home with anything less than two gold medals. What separates Matthews from Aonita is that he is blind... and no one is disputing his claim that he can win the 800, 1,500 and 5,000 metres all at a single meeting.

Matthews has raised the British flag at major events more often than Cram, Coe and Cresswell combined. It is not too fanciful to suggest that, but for his handicap, he might have been in Seoul for the real Olympics instead of the ones which begin tomorrow, the Paralympics. Since winning all three events at the 1983 European championships in Sofia, he has repeated the treble at the 1984 Paralympics, the 1986 world championships and the 1987 European championships.

He is unbeaten in international competition. His 800 metres time, 1min 59.9sec, would be envied by the majority of club runners. At 1,500 metres (4:07.2) and 5,000 metres (16:01.6) Matthews would be a worthy member of any area league line-up. This year, at the longer distance, he represented his club, Medway, in Southern League division one.

A chest infection has raised a doubt, but no more than that, over his chances of winning all three events. "I picked up the infection skiing in Norway and haven't been able to shake it off," he said. "One day I might have a good run and another I won't. I've been to a chest specialist and that cost me 90-odd quid to be told there was nothing wrong. If only I was Seb Coe. He would have specialists ringing him up. I don't know who to approach or where to go."

Matthews, aged 27, has had some help, though. His local council in Rochester, Kent, kept him on a road or the running machine to Seoul by paying half the £3,500 needed for training equipment in his home. The machine means he is less dependent on guides to take him out on the streets. The problem with being a sub-two-minute 800 metres runner is that there are few sighted runners locally who can keep up and assist him with the training he needs.

The guide's responsibility is to relay



Running mate: Bob Matthews and partner, Barry Royden (left), training for Seoul (Photograph: Roger Vaughan)

instructions by tugging the rope which links the two athletes or, in an emergency, by shouting. "The important thing is synchronization and my guide must not be frightened of making decisions. He has got to have as much confidence in me as I have in him and has got to know that I am going to do what he tells me."

Not that it always works. "We were crossing a road in London. A Marina was signalling to go right and I thought it was safe to cross. But it turned left and we both ended up on the bonnet."

World standards are improving and competition will be more severe in Seoul than at any previous championships. But Matthews, if less arrogant than Aonita, is no less ambitious. He wants his reputation as a record-breaker and competitive racer to go unchallenged for years to come. "If someone said I was going to come back with one silver and two gold I would be disappointed."

His target beyond Seoul is to break four minutes for 1,500 metres. "I should have done it by now" — and to

prove that, not only can he compete with sighted people in athletics but that he can be an equal professionally.

One of his greatest ambitions was to reach the Kent AAA 1,500 metres final, which he did in 1986; one that remains is to become a physiotherapist. He looks forward to the end of praise born out of sympathy more than appreciation. "I want people to say: 'That's a bloody good time' — to think of Bob Matthews, the athlete who happens to be blind, not Bob Matthews the blind athlete."

HOCKEY

Isca face confident Kerly

By Sydney Friskin

Britain's Olympic gold medal-winning squad will have no need to fear from their jet lag and most will play for their club in the Poundstretcher National League which starts today.

Decide the British captain, and Cliff, who was at inside left, will not be playing for Southgate. However, Kerly and Bachelier will be at Colin Toot Sports Centre, Outry St Mary, near Exeter. Kerly, who has transferred to Indian Gymkhana for whom he is not eligible to play for at least a fortnight under the registration rules.

Slough have also lost Ubby and Hanspal, who earlier went over to Indian Gymkhana, so Khehar, last year's captain who took on the role of coach for Slough, will play today to help out in the emergency. Harborne have two new Welsh signings, Jeremy Fry and Andy, Rhys-Jones.

Teddington expect to reach high noon against Welton today at Feltham with their youthful quartet of Bilson, Riley, McGuire and Barker to make up for the absence of the injured

Potter, Britain's right-half travel with Hounslow to Bradford to play Wakefield. Pappin, Britain's second choice goalkeeper, is in Hong Kong and misses the match. His place goes to Purvis Hounslow's squad includes Robert Thompson and Gordon, at outside right.

Slough, who entertain Harborne at the Brunel University sports ground, Uxbridge, have lost Bhaji Flora. He has transferred to Indian Gymkhana for whom he is not eligible to play for at least a fortnight under the registration rules.

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Berkshire game should be highlight

By Joyce Whitehead

The national county championships finals will be held on December 3 and 4 at Canterbury. The South and seven counties begin first and complete their championship on November 20.

Surrey, the champions, beat Sussex 3-1 last weekend and tomorrow play Hampshire (11:30) in Southampton. The most absorbing match should be Berkshire v Middlesex at Bishop

Abbey, Marlow (14.30). For several seasons these two have battled with Surrey for supremacy in the South.

The South league matches begin today. It is their second season and this time they encompass a new second division with 10 clubs. The national club champions, Ealing, open their campaign against Winchester Hill at Dairy Meadow, Southall. With automatic relegation for

the bottom two teams, points are at a premium this season. Lancashire have started a league with three divisions — nine teams in the first and seven in the others.

The first division is likely to be a highly one with Didsbury Greys, Crosby, Hightown, Liverpool, Liverpool Polytechnic, St Helens, Ormskirk, Wigan and Raddcliffe in the competition.

ATHLETICS

US adopts tough line on S Africa

Indianapolis (Reuters) — American athletes risk life suspensions from domestic and international competition if they compete in meetings in South Africa this month, say the United States athletics governing body said.

Ollan Cassell, executive director of The Athletics Congress, has written to the South African Council on Sport asking that American athletes be warned of the consequences of competing in any of three meetings scheduled this month. In the letter, Cassell said they

will remember it as the most thrilling run by a Briton all year. With no Olympics, Commonwealth Games, European or world championships next year, it will be a summer when thoughts turn to records and Martin, though saying nothing of it now, may consider Fernando Mamede's mark at the longer distance a viable challenge. But first, the endeavour which few of the public ever see: a hard winter's cross-country.

"I am trying to forget about what happened in Seoul," Martin said. "On Sunday I would like to finish my season on a winning note and then I am going to take two weeks off. After that I will churn out some big weeks with high mileage. I want to run well in the world cross-country championships and then re-establish myself on the track."

Thirty-four years after Roger Bannister attained his goal on the cinders at Iffley Road, Harlow should bring himself up to date tomorrow with his first sub four-minute mile.

The inclusion of a Kenyan called Rono in an invitation field is a good start, though it is Kip, a member of his nation's world cross-country championship team, who has withdrawn, not Peter, the Olympic 1,500 metres champion, who the sponsors, General Portfolio, confirmed yesterday would be appearing. In the absence of Sir Cram, who has withdrawn, the only Seoul Olympian in the field is Eamonn Martin. His demise at the Games, pulling up in the final of the 10,000 metres and failing to reach the 5,000 metres final, cannot spoil the memory of his national record for the longer distance. Many observers

GOLF

Proper way to play the game

By Patricia Davies

The professional reigns supreme in sport these days, generally relegating the amateur to the occasional token mention on the back pages. Reams are written on the tax, marital and mental problems of the champions and the game itself, having become a business, is almost an incidental, or so it often seems. And the older you are, the less you matter.

Golf has, perhaps, been luckier than most in this respect because it does not require a lot of running around and also, once taken up, it is such a difficult game to put down. Stars like Arnold Palmer, Gary Player and Sam Snead have all entered the senior tour, but they are all still hooked, not just on money and fame, but on the game itself. They might even, albeit reluctantly, recognize the truth of a remark once made by Frank Hannigan, chief executive director of the United States Golf Association.

Exasperated by what he saw as the intrusiveness of one professional, or his agent, Hannigan commented acerbically: "If the world of professional golf gathered for one of its multi-million dollar junkets, in California and an earthquake swept them all into the sea, the rest of golf would express sympathy, observe one minute's silence and then carry on as before."

Exaggeration or not, it was a plea for the recognition of "proper" golf, and that is what will be on display at St Mellion in Cornwall next Monday and Tuesday on a course designed, ironically, by Jack Nicklaus, the high priest of a game so far from proper that even the great Bobby Jones confessed he was unfamiliar with it.

The Clerical Medical Investment Group seniors' championship deserves attention, not least because in its early stages it involved some 1,140 clubs and more than 50,000 competitors. It is, claimed organizer Peter McEvoy, the hero of the recent British and Irish victory in the Eisenhower Trophy and a consolation of the big occasion, the largest seniors' competition in the world.

Now only the 25 finalists remain, and they will be spending the weekend in a state of nervous anticipation before contesting the two rounds that will decide the third winner of this title.

Ranging in age from 50 to over 70, the mixture of amateur benchers, solicitors, officers, hotel builders, company directors, club stewards and civil servants — some retired, some not — comes from Scotland, Northern Ireland, all over England and Wales. Some, like Keith Macdonald, of the Dun Ockil club at Glenageary and Jim Ray of Forbury, have had great success in other sports — in their case international rugby and motor rallying respectively; others, like Tom King-Davies from Royal Portcawl, at 72 the oldest finalist, did not touch such heights but enjoyed club cricket and rugby as well as golf.

He has been playing for 60 years, having been set swinging by his father, Arthur, in the late 1920s, but he still has some way to go to match father. Now 102, Arthur, president of Maesteg golf club, was wielding a mean putter until a couple of years ago.

Macdonald played rugby for Scotland in the mid-1950s, but refused to reveal any more than the fact that he had played in the centre against the likes of Butterfield and Davies. Now playing off 12, he once had his handicap reduced from 18 to four in one fell swoop.

The humps and hollows of St Mellion, so roundly slammed by the disgraced American Mafin Spencer-Devlin during the British women's Open last year, should hold no terrors for Ray, a former winner of the RAC Rally and team winner at Monte Carlo.

He also braved the heights and hairpins of the Rallye des Alpes several times and the difficulties of the Liege-Rome-Liege event, complicated by the fact that it took in Sofia instead of Rome. At least he should have no trouble finding his way to Cornwall.

CYCLING

Olympic team embark on Australia tour

By Peter Bryan

Five of Britain's Olympic squad, led by the national champion, Neil Hoban, start in the Commonwealth Bank of Australia tour tomorrow. The team has been in Australia for nearly two weeks following the Seoul Games, riding in a series of city centre races.

Hoban will be supported by Colin Sturgess, a semi-finalist in the 4,000 metres track pursuit. Ben Luckwell, runner-up to Paul Curran in the season-long Star Trophy competition, Harry Love and Mark Cornall.

Tomorrow's opening event is the shortest of the 1,100 miles, 13-day tour — a four-kilometre prologue time trial at Surfer's Paradise. Ten national teams of five and six Australians are in the line-up.

The tour includes four city centre events on short and difficult circuits and is routed through Grafton, Maitland, Sydney, Canberra, Shepparton and Melbourne before the finish in Melbourne on October 29. The prize list of Aus\$30,000 is the highest for an amateur race in the country.

Britain's cyclo-cross squad will be in action for the first time this season in Rome tomorrow. Barry Clark, Chris Young, Steve Barnes and Stuart May shall compete in the opening Nations Cup race.

FELL RUNNING

Italians well-versed to continue run of success

By Bill Melville

The Italians are out to maintain an unblemished record and take their fourth Mountain Running World Cup in succession when they compete with 20 other countries in the Lake District hills around Keswick this weekend.

The men will be supported by Colin Sturgess, a semi-finalist in the 4,000 metres track pursuit. Ben Luckwell, runner-up to Paul Curran in the season-long Star Trophy competition, Harry Love and Mark Cornall.

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Fausto Bonzi, aged 26, the reigning champion, will be out to prove his wrong.

Carol Haigh, the only British starter with a World Cup win to her credit, likes steep climbs. This summer she pitched up these hills out of the snow in Switzerland. In all three she beat the reigning champion, Fabian Reuter, of Colombia. Last year high temperatures in Switzerland proved the Englishmen's downfall. Despite a back strain she must expect to win today.

Tomorrow's nine-mile race around the Coladale Horseshoe, climbing to more than 2,500ft, is the grand prize event of the weekend. Colin Donnelly, the Welsh-based Scot, retained the British fell championship this year and while wearing a blue vest for Scotland — a rare occurrence in IAAF fixtures these days — he is the British hope. The Cambeslang Harrier is reputed to predict victory, however. A blizzard fell in recent weeks enforced a training layoff.

Past distance winners strong on uphill running are missing from the field. Jim Leithan, of Ireland, or the Matherhorn Race winner, Wolfgang Mörz, of West Germany, could provide the opposition.

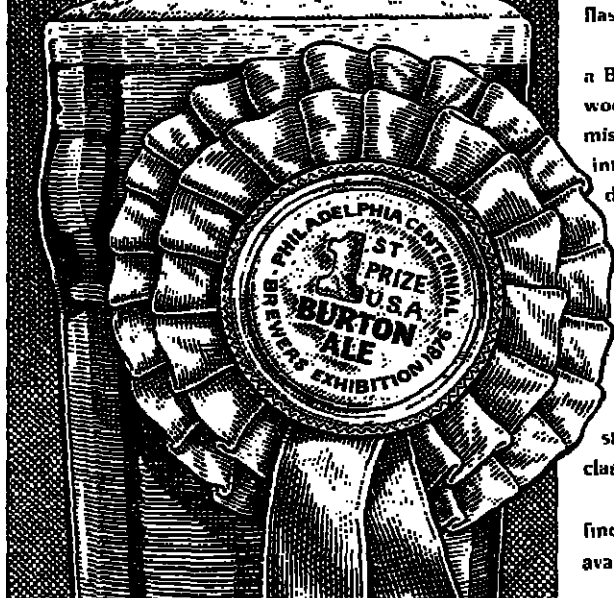
In a country never slow to proclaim its own virtues, the behaviour of certain Americans in 1876 represented something of a climbdown.

To celebrate the 100th year of their clean-living nation, our Yankee friends invited the world's trades and industries to take part in a great exhibition.

Presumably to pick up a few tips on ale brewing they asked Allsopp's of Burton-on-Trent (our illustrious forebears), to display the workings of a modern English brewery.

With uncharacteristic humility and generously striving to appear to share the good taste of their British counterparts, the judges gave Allsopp's prize for their happy Burton ale.

But as history shows, this unprecedented



flash of good taste was short-lived.

The Americans, rather than perfecting a Burton-style ale of their own, went woefully astray and in a moment of terrible misjudgement chose to pour their energies into the creation of the grease-ridden hot dog and chequered golf socks.

Thankfully, England kept a grip and today, Ind Coupe's Burton Ale is still brewed in the same style as that which the Americans drank by the station-full in 1876.

Using the famous Burton water and the finest malt and hops this strong, full-bodied, hoppy ale is a classic amongst beers.

Served at a civilised temperature, you'll find it ungreasy, unchequered and unavailable in America.

Whatever happened to the good taste the Americans showed in 1876?



BURTON BORN - BURTON BREWED - BURTON ALE

Childhood of the Champions: Yachtsman Harold Cudmore

Adventurer of time and tide

In one sense of the term, Harold Cudmore is very much an old sea-dog. He knows the waters of the world as well as any sailor, having skippered White Crusader in the last America's Cup, won five World Championships, 12 international match-racing series and cruised enough coastlines to write a hundred travel brochures. Yet in another sense, the term is quite inappropriate. He is not the salty, weather-beaten, pipe-smoking jack-tar of legend. He may have grown up in a sailing environment but his success is more a product of intellect and acumen than any simple, robust affinity with the sea.

He is urbane, well-groomed and charming, in keeping with his cultured middle-class upbringing. His soft, Irish tones bespeak a sharp, sophisticated mind, one which made a considered decision only 15 years ago to turn to yacht racing as a full-time career.

Up to that point Cudmore, now aged 44, had pootled along pursuing his hobby of sailing with a fair degree of success but with no definite direction. It had started as most passions do — in his early youth. His father, Harry, was a keen sailor and belonged to the Royal Yacht Club of Cork. The boy could not have been exposed to a finer tradition for the club is the oldest in the world, having been founded in the 1720s. Harold spent his summer days messing about on the river. "It was a very Swallows and Amazons existence," he recalls. "It was a lovely harbour on a lovely river and my friends and I would spend all holidays there. I was at all in term. My father had a cruising boat with a little eight-foot punt and we would just cut ourselves off in our own little world. That was the real initial excitement and thrill."

Cudmore has never lost that basic urge for adventure. Nowadays, much to the consternation of his girlfriend, he goes flying at least once a week just for the hell of it. The casual tomfoolery of boys soon turned into a keen rivalry when, aged 12, fathers bought the boys their own boats, six junior cadets. "That was a turning point," says Harold. "It amused me to think back on just how appalling our technical standards were. However, we were so aggressive and competitive that we were really years ahead." Most of that group of six went on to be successful. One friend, Tom O'Gorman, won the Edinburgh Cup whilst the Sisk brothers own one of the country's foremost building companies. Another was to serve with distinction in the SAS.

Sailing these days for Cudmore is a business. He is, and needs to be, a very purposeful and forthright individual. "I don't think I would have won any prizes in a popularity contest. It was fairly strong-willed and probably a bit outspun." But that was mainly on the water. I think I've always managed to retain some sort of perspective about it all. Once the race was over I was always fairly easy-going and even-tempered. I think all of us have a good and a bad part to our character. My bad part used to emerge on the water. Sailing was simply a great outlet for my energy. I had no other real interest in life until I discovered the time-



Looking ahead: Cudmore, pictured here as a teenager aboard his father's yacht, The Annette, drifted into his career

honoured distractions of youth — drink and girls."

Tough and resolute he may have been, but he was never remote and aloof. The sailing was hard but always fun. "When you're skipping a boat," Cudmore says, "of course you have to make some harsh decisions, but that doesn't mean you don't enjoy a pint with everyone afterwards. It's always been that way with me: rivals on the water, great pals off it."

Cudmore is renowned for running a tight ship. The preparation and realization of any project, often involving more than 100 people, is planned in minute detail. Yet these management skills were acquired in later life. Neither school work nor natural temperament suggested the rigorous, meticulous mind which was to develop.

Even aged 24 he was still a holiday and weekend sailor. He had ambition but only of a vague, nagging kind. It was really chance — meeting the right people at the right time — which made him aware of the commercial potential of sailing. "Where it could go rather than where it had come from as he puts it. As for the sailing itself the great motivation to pursue it was, and probably still is, travel. He has only recently bought his first house, having spent the last 15 years wintering in Australia and the Bahamas and spending the summers in the Mediterranean. Even the wild dreams of the young boy in Cork harbour did not stretch that far.

Mick Cleary



Cudmore at Cowes Marina today, having steered an adventurous course

Sporting aspirations fail to keep pace in land of the rising yen

On the face of it, Takeshi Kobayashi is the archetypal work-conscious Japanese male. A computer programmer, he has spent 15 years with the same company since leaving university. He regularly works more than his eight-hour day, and spends most evenings socializing with colleagues, and occasionally indulging one of the less "honourable" Japanese pursuits, that of falling over drunk, with his smart suit and briefcase in the Tokyo streets before he eventually goes home, 90 minutes on the train, to the wife.

But for one extra week outside his holidays earlier this summer, his wife saw a lot more of Kobayashi, although their conversation was limited. For Kobayashi was "ill". So ill that all he could do was sit in front of the television all day, nursing himself with six-packs of Sapporo beer. His "illness", was the *Koshien*. "And I wasn't going to miss it for anything this year."

The *Koshien* is the annual high-school baseball tournament in Osaka, which grips Japan as strongly and completely — daily, live coverage by national TV — as college basketball does the United States.

And, just like the television executive said of their 525 line system, "If we'd won the war it would probably be different." The Americans are at the bottom of it. While pausing to consider the alternative, the men-mountain of American football joining battle with the barrels of lead on the Sumo floor, the loss of the Second World War changed the pattern of popular sport in Japan.

Although baseball had been introduced years before, it really took hold after 1945, and is now the principle regular spectator sport, with a maximum of three imported (US and Taiwanese) players, and crowds of 50,000 expected for the forthcoming Japan Series, the equivalent of the United States' World Series.

The 1964 Olympic Games was the next crucial date in recent Japanese sporting history, although the economic miracle it helped foster was not duplicated in athletics.

And those people, who, understandably, were impressed by the marvellous facilities in Seoul, yet wondered if they were going to be used for anything more than grass-cutting contests in the future, will not be reassured by the Japanese experience. The best Japanese athletic performance in the stadium

in Seoul were fourteenth in the 10,000 metres and twelfth in the triple jump, one of the events which the Japanese used to dominate before the war. In the only area of athletics success internationally, the marathon, the favourite Takeshi Nakayama finished fourth. Thus the Japanese are still waiting for a real winner. For the irony of the advertised success in 1936 through Kitei Son is that he was, in fact, Cheung Kee Sui, the sprightly Korean, aged 77, who ran into Chamsil carrying the Olympic torch a month ago. Since the Japanese ruled Korea at the time, Cheung was forced to wear the Rising Sun.

According to Jun Takehashi, a former sports writer and now a public relations executive for the Asahi media group, which sponsored last week's Olympic meeting in which the Japanese brought up the rear in all events — "title was expected from the Olympics, so no-one was too distressed."

Baron de Coubertin's thesis that the "taking part" is more important than the winning may have been sufficient in athletics, but drew short shrift in judo. Despite one *Daily Yomiuri* writer reminding his readers that the "do" in judo means path, and that its founder, Kano Jigoro, intended the practice to help towards world peace, one Olympic gold in the national sport has involved the sort of soul-searching which accompanied England's loss of footballing empire to the Hungarians in 1953.

The enthusiasm with which the Japanese have taken on foreign sports like golf, tennis, and, at high-scoring university level, football, rugby and American football has resulted in a diffusion of interest and a reduction of Japanese into the country's traditional sports like judo, kendo and karate. Motokazu Tanaka, a Japanese airline executive,

sees the formalities of those sports being a bar to youngsters.

As a junior kendo player, he described the practice of cleaning out dressing rooms and washing seniors' kites, not too far removed from British football apprentices' chores. But other traditions have begun to fade. "For example, if I went to the railway station, and there was one of my seniors there who caught my eye, even if he was at the other end of the platform, I had to bow and shout out a greeting. Young people don't want to feel those obligations any more."

But while the "economic miracle" helped expand the spectrum of sports, it has in the basic argument of Yutaka Morimoto, "killed incentive. Nobody is hungry for success in sports, in order to prove themselves any more."

Several areas of newspaper were dedicated to the Sumo (grossed-up *Sumo*) champion, Chiyomifuji's injured left shoulder during the recent Tokyo tournament in September. And he is probably rivalled as a headliner domestically by Tatsunori Hara of the Giants baseball team and, after their Olympic success, swimmer Daichi Suzuki, and judo competitor, Hiroshi Saicho.

The rest are foreigners. The tribulations of Mike Tyson, and the further revelations about Ben Johnson have spilled as much ink in Japanese papers as anything that has happened in domestic sport. Although, after Johnson's drugs test, career in the commercial Japanese TV came to an end as abruptly as a Lamborghini slamming into a brick wall. But Carl Lewis sings on. The Japanese are the only people in the world who buy his records.

On the subject of money, there is a \$12 million earmarked for a well-needed revamp of the 1964 Olympic stadium before the world athletics championships here in 1991. For it looks positively ancient after the graceful lines of Chamsil in Seoul. And the rim of a baseball cage, resembling the Oval gasometer, over one corner does not help.

The faithful followers of the athletics circuit had better start saving if they are going to come here in 1991. It is difficult to find any sort of room under £50 a night, a 40-minute train ride costs £15 one way and a hamburger from a street stall costs a temper.

Pat Butcher



GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

3.0 unless stated

Barclays League

First division

Charlton v Villa
Sheff Wed v Millwall
QPR v West Ham

GM Vauxhall Conference

Altrincham v Newport
Aylesbury v Maidstone
Chesham v Kidderminster
Enfield v Telford
Maidstone v Chesham
Welling v Sutton Utd
Yeovil v Runcorn

Beazer Homes League

Premier division

Burton v Bath
Cambridge v V/S Rugby
Huddersfield v Bristol C

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Second division

First division

Birmingham v WBA
Blackburn v Barnsley
Bradford v Palace
Hull v Sunderland
Ipswich v Oxford
Leicester v Stoke
Oxford v Chelsea
Plymouth v Manchester C
Preston v Bournemouth
Sheff Wed v Bristol C
Walsley v Brighton

Second division

First division

Birmingham v WBA
Blackburn v Barnsley
Bradford v Palace
Hull v Sunderland
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Walsley v Brighton

B and Q Scottish League

First division

Airdrie v Clyde
Ayr v Dunfermline
Forfar v Morton
Greenock v Kilmarnock
Partick v Falkirk
Raith v Clydebank
St Johnstone v Queen of St

Second division

First division

Aberdeen v Aberdeen
Albion v Forfar
Aberdeen v Aberdeen
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Second division

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RUGBY UNION

TOSHA COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

Buckinghamshire v Somerset (Marlow, 2.30)
Cardiff v Harlequins (Cardiff, 2.30)
Devon v Cornwall (Exeter, 2.30)
Dorset and Wilt v Gloucestershire (Salisbury, 2.30)
Leicestershire v Durham (Waterloo, 2.30)
Northampton v Cheshire (Aldwick, 2.15)

TOUR MATCHES

First division

London Division v Australia (Twickenham)
Newbridge v Western Samoa

TOUR MATCHES

First division

Askeans v Sharnbrook (Croydon)
Blackburn v Birmingham (2.45)
Bristol v Coventry
Cardiff v Harlequins
Dorset and Wilt v Gloucestershire
Leicestershire v Durham
Northampton v Cheshire
Oxford v Bath
Plymouth v Exeter
Reading v Bath
Salisbury v Bath
Somerset v Bath
Tottenham v Bath
Worcester v Bath
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Bristol v Coventry
Cardiff v Harlequins
Dorset and Wilt v Gloucestershire
Leicestershire v Durham
Northampton v Cheshire
Oxford v Bath
Plymouth v Exeter
Reading v Bath
Salisbury v Bath
Somerset v Bath
Tottenham v Bath
Worcester v Bath
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TOUR MATCHES

First division

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TOUR MATCHES

SPORTS BOOK OF THE WEEK



Six of the best: only Charlton (centre) has reached the goal which (left to right) Lineker, Francis, Hoddle, Barnes and Sansom have sought in vain

England's great expectations

England begin their 1990 World Cup quest at Wembley next Wednesday. Trevor Brooking examines the merits of some past and present England campaigners

The master on and off the pitch

Bobby Charlton was at one time probably the best-known English footballer in the world. The fame he achieved was entirely justified because he was not only a marvellous player but also a wonderful ambassador for English sportsmanship.

When I was a youngster there was no single player I particularly idolized but Bobby was the one I most enjoyed watching. For me he was an all-rounder of immense talent and fortitude. Like so many youngsters in the 1950s I took a close interest in his career largely because he was one of the survivors of the terrible air disaster at Munich in 1958. He was one of the young lions in the team of "Busby Babes" and a whole generation of kids grew up to look upon him as a symbol of all that was good in the English game.

He was from the famous Milburn footballing family in the North East and was a brilliant prodigy before going from England schoolboys to Old Trafford in the early 1950s. His older brother, Jack, was already with Leeds United. Bobby soon became famous for his terrific shooting ability and by the time the 1966 World Cup came round he was firmly established as everyone's favourite player.

The stunning long-range goal he scored against Mexico at Wembley in the finals was the launching pad for England's later success. The spectacular shot from the edge of the area was to become as much of a trademark as his thin flowing hair.

He often worked for his own openings, running from deep positions striking a forward pass, taking the return in full stride before hitting a clubbing drive towards the goal. He was a scorer of great goals, rather than a great goalscorer, although he hit 49 for England in 106 appearances — a post-war record. Unlike many marksmen, he was more than willing to do his share of the donkey work in midfield and he was a prodigious chaser of lost causes.

Perhaps what set him apart as a personality — and this is something young players today would

do well to remember — is that his conduct on and off the field was exemplary. Most days when scolding their sons would say: "Bobby Charlton wouldn't behave like that." He was the epitome of the sporting English gentleman — fair and honest but with an unshakable determination to win and to battle against all the odds.

The case of the missing superlatives

There has probably been more debate about the merits of Glenn Hoddle than about any other player in the English game over the last 10 to 15 years. There are those who cannot find enough superlatives to describe him and others who feel that his remarkable talent has been wasted.

There is no doubt in my mind that he is the most gifted footballer since George Best drifted out of the game. His touch on the ball is quite brilliant and when I worked with him closely during England training sessions I saw him mesmerize team-mates with his skills. There have been times when I have been amazed at what he has been able to achieve on the training pitch. He is equally adept with both feet and is easily the best two-footed player of his generation.

There is much about his game that reminds me of the great South American players — the perfect weight, the places on a pass, the precision with which he kills a ball and ensures it does not bounce away from him, and his marvellous ability to pull the ball down almost from shoulder height with either foot.

His critics' main gripe is that he disappears from games for long periods; they argue that he does not involve himself for the full 90 minutes. I must say that I have seen him play in games where he has taken a back seat for far too long but, on other days, I have seen him transform a match with one or two moments of individual brilliance.

Perhaps there is a price to pay for such outstanding talent. If there is, then in Hoddle's case the team he plays for should be happy to pay it. My chief criticism of him would be that he does not run with the ball as much as he could. I have seen him dribble past defenders with ease in training but for some reason he has always seemed reluctant to take on defenders in full stride during matches.

On the other hand, his greatest strength is unquestionably his long passing and his ability to switch the point of attack so devastatingly. Glenn's long shooting has always been impressive and early in his career with Tottenham he was quite happy to thunder 25-yard drives at the opposing goalkeeper. He got his fair share of goals, too — 19 in the League in 1979-80 — but more recently he has taken to chipping his shots over the goalkeeper and

although this can bring the crowd to its feet I do not think it produces so many goals.

Occasionally I have felt a little sorry for him because of all the argument he provoked quite unwittingly, especially when he was trying to establish himself in the England side. Ron Greenwood gave him his debut against Bulgaria in 1979 where he scored with a long-range shot, but it probably took him five more years before he became a fixture in the side. Every good professional wants to be a regular player in the England side but, according to many sections of the media, Glenn always seemed to be on trial when he was selected. He always had to justify his place.

He had to come to terms with close marking in the French League but such is his talent that he will overcome all obstacles on the Continent. His game is suited to Continental football and had I been in the same situation and had the opportunity arisen, I am sure I would have gone.

An attacker who curbed his instincts

Kenny Sansom was one of the most exciting young defenders I had ever seen when he was at Crystal Palace. But such was the impression that he made on me then, that now I am sometimes disappointed that we do not see so many of the attacking strikers that were a feature of his early career.

There is no question that he is a great left back but he showed such early potential that I was not alone in thinking that he would become the complete defender. He had a good grounding under the shrewd eye of Terry Venables on the Palace side that was tagged the "team of the 80s".

Sansom, Billy Gilbert and Jerry Murphy, among others, grew up together at Selhurst Park and won the FA Youth Cup a couple of times. Kenny stood out in those days because of his speed and his overlapping play. I remember playing with him in an England XI in a testimonial match at Aston Villa and I have never forgotten the electrifying runs he made from the left-back position deep into the opposing half. He was like an orthodox left winger playing at left back and he obviously made an impression because in 1979 he made his debut in Ron Greenwood's team against Wales.

That season Kenny won a second division championship medal with Palace and after one more season at Selhurst Park he was transferred to Arsenal in a £1 million exchange deal involving Clive Allen. Kenny stood still for a while at Arsenal, perhaps because they restricted his attacking play which was, after all, his greatest strength. I also felt that he needed to be careful with his weight.

But by this time Kenny had established himself as a threat to Mick Mills in the England team though the Ipswich captain kept Ken out for a long period in 1981.

Mills' form eventually won him the captaincy of the 1982 World Cup team in Spain though Greenwood decided to play him at right back which meant Kenny was reinstated at left back.

Since Bobby Robson took over after the 1982 World Cup Kenny was until recently, virtually ever-present in the England side. He has improved his game defensively, though I still think that sometimes his reading of the play lets him down. Going forward he would have few rivals if he could attack with the consistency he showed as a youngster.

Great talent blighted by injuries

A footballing prodigy in his teens, Trevor Francis never fulfilled the extravagant predictions that accompanied his arrival on the scene in 1970. He showed enormous potential when he broke into the Birmingham City side as a 16-year-old. The headlines tagged him "the wonder boy of the 1970s" but, for me, there was always a big question mark over his fitness.

There is no doubt that he was quite outstanding as a youngster, initially scoring goals at the rate of one a game, for a while we really thought that a footballing genius had landed among us.

He ran well with the ball, had genuine pace, could go past defenders with ease and could score confidently with shot or header. He seemed to be the perfect striker. He benefited hugely from playing alongside some talented and very experienced strikers like Bob Hatton and Bob Latchford and quickly became the favourite of the crowd at St Andrew's. After eight years at Birmingham, scoring more than 100 goals in 300 games, he created a little football history by becoming the first £1 million player.

Brian Clough decided he was worth such an investment and signed him for Nottingham Forest in February 1979. Trevor was not renowned for his heading, but three months later he repaid a big slice of the fee when he headed the winning goal in the European Cup final against Malmö of Sweden in Munich.

The following season he was again an influential figure in the Forest side that achieved success by winning the European Cup for a second time. By this time he was an established England player though a catalogue of injuries interrupted his career both at international and club level at regular intervals.

He was a player of tremendous speed and I often wonder whether it was the fact that he took so many knocks and fell so heavily when in full stride that caused his frequent injuries. Whatever the reasons, his best years were his early days with Birmingham. Forest recouped their £1 million by selling him to Manchester City, who then sold him to Sampdoria

in Italy for £800,000 in July 1982.

He finished his playing career in Italy with Atalanta of Bergamo and then, somewhat surprisingly, Glasgow Rangers signed him at the beginning of the 1987-88 season. The Rangers manager, Graeme Souness, had played with Francis in Italy and knew him well. That meant, of course, that Graeme knew of Trevor's bad luck with injuries so Rangers offered him a contract that was reputedly worth £1,000 a match... but only for the matches he played.

Trevor spent just nine months with Rangers and once they had been knocked out of the European Cup in 1988 Souness decided to release him on a free transfer. So six years after joining the exodus to Italy, he returned to the first division with QPR at the age of 34. Of course, he was no longer the quicksilver striker who had scored 15 goals in 21 matches in his first season at Birmingham. But, if his pace had slackened, his touch was still good and his experience could prove invaluable.

The Queen's Park Rangers' manager, Jim Smith — the man who had sold him from Birmingham to Forest for £1 million — reckoned Trevor could help his young team as they pushed for the runners-up position at the end of the 1987-88 League championship.

No looking back for fast forward

I can remember Leicester City putting four goals past West Ham once and the lad who caught my eye that day was Gary Lineker. I asked about him after the match, thinking his name might be worth a mention to the England manager, and I was told that he was Scottish! He was, of course, born in Leicester and was destined to become one of the most prolific England marksmen of the 1980s.

The thing that impressed me about him, then and now, was his lightning speed and his astute reading of the game. There have been many quick strikers in the game but what gives Lineker the edge is the fact that he knows when best to utilize his speed. The timing of his runs is excellent, the positions he takes provide scoring opportunities, and so long as the service to him is good enough, he is a very difficult opponent to stop. He has the natural speed to carry him into scoring positions and to that he has added the composure that is necessary in front of the goal.

He made his international debut for England as a substitute against Scotland in 1984 and two years later he established himself as a striker of the highest quality when he scored six goals and finished as the leading marksman in the 1986 World Cup. He scored a hat-trick against Poland in Monterrey to pull England back from the brink of a shameful World Cup exit. They were the

first goals that England scored in Mexico and they restored the reputation of Bobby Robson's men. They also provided the first signs of a blossoming partnership between Gary and the Liverpool forward (then with Newcastle United), Peter Beardsley.

Lineker's three goals in the Estadio Universitario illustrated all his strengths. On a warm evening, in the shadow of Monterrey's saddleback mountain, he outpaced defenders to slide in a right-wing cross from Everton team-mate Gary Stevens after just seven minutes. The Poles, forced to emerge from their defensive stronghold, gave Lineker even more scope. He volleyed home a cross from Steve Hodge on the left and had the speed and wit to capitalize on a mistake by the Polish goalkeeper.

Gary has one area of his game that he needs to improve if he wants to be acknowledged as a complete, all-round striker and I am sure that his first manager at Barcelona, Terry Venables, stressed the point. He needs to work on his ability to dribble and to create his own chances.

Latest hope steps out of the wings

John Barnes is the youngest of my 100 players. As a teenager he had the potential to become one of football's great names but, I hesitated over selecting him, thinking it a little premature to include him alongside wingers like Matthews, Finney, Best and Coppell. It was his £900,000 transfer from Watford to Liverpool at the age of 23 and the fact that he immediately began producing performances of consistent quality that, finally, demanded his inclusion on merit alone.

Barnes was born in Jamaica, the son of an army officer who later became military attaché to Great Britain, and John played his early football for Sudbury Court in the Middlesex League. But it wasn't until he came under the critical eye of Graham Taylor at Watford that he began to blossom.

He spent six seasons in the first team at Vicarage Road and, each season, his goal tally reached double figures. In his debut year, 1981-2, he finished as the club's second-highest marksman and played a significant role in helping them climb out of Division Two.

In 1984 he played in the Watford team that lost 2-0 to Everton in the FA Cup final at Wembley. In those days he looked one of the most skilful young players in the League and it was just a question of whether this rather relaxed and easy going character would have the ambition to make the most of his potential.

Taylor, who can be a dictatorial manager, demanded and, for the most part, got the best out of Barnes. It was no surprise, then, when he was elevated from the

under-21 to the full England squad but it wasn't until a month after that FA Cup defeat by Everton that he really made an impression on the international scene.

He could not have chosen a more memorable stage — the awesome Maracana Stadium in Rio on a warm, balmy afternoon. England had travelled to South America for three matches in the summer of 1984 after a string of indifferent results against Wales, Scotland and the USSR.

I feared a disastrous tour but England beat Brazil, lost to Uruguay and drew with Chile and, for manager Bobby Robson, there was a double bonus — Barnes and Mark Hateley. Both emerged strongly as international-class players on that trip and both scored in the 2-0 win in Rio, England's first victory in Brazil.

I was at that match and will never forget the superb goal Barnes scored. It was Brazilian in concept and execution, a searing run carrying him past lunging tackles before he quite casually slid the ball past the goalkeeper. It was typical of this brilliant winger. He shared the England wing's duties with Tottenham's Chris Waddle but, at least, sampled the World Cup atmosphere in the later stages of the quarter-final against Argentina in 1986 when he came on as substitute and almost rescued the game for England.

By 1987 Barnes realized that he would only secure further significant progress in his career if he moved from Vicarage Road to a bigger club. So when Barnes began agitating for a transfer, his agents took a video recording of him in action to prospective buyers on the Continent.

Barnes favoured a move abroad but in June 1987, when no foreign club had taken the bait, he almost reluctantly signed for Liverpool. But, with Liverpool in 1987-88, he swept away any doubts about his talent or commitment. He helped to make Liverpool the No. 1 attraction wherever they played and, as the first black player to hold down a regular place at Anfield, he quickly endeared himself to the local fans.

I would always have him in my England side because he's capable of winning a match with a moment's magic, but I am not sure that Bobby Robson would share that view. All managers want wingers to work back and although John now has a far greater awareness of his defensive responsibilities I know that in his early days with England he felt that he was called on to defend to the detriment of his attacking game.

He has a wonderful feel for the ball and, when it is knocked to him, can cushion it almost without thinking. Although predominantly left footed, he can roll and drag the ball both ways and his dribbling routines carry him safely past defenders on either side. Liverpool have given him what is, in effect, a free role, and, with the industrious Peter Beardsley, he has transformed them.

● This article was adapted from Trevor Brooking's 100 Great British Footballers, published by MacDonald Queen Anne Press (£13.95).

Newmarket trainer offers rare insight into the Piggotts' ordeal and the public response

Emerging from the dark days

The dignity of Lester and Susan Piggott during their ordeal has earned widespread respect. Personal scars will need time to heal, but a source of great comfort to them during their darkest days has been public support and loyalty from friends and owners.

Newmarket trainer William Haggas, engaged to their elder daughter, Maureen, bears witness to this caring face of racing.

"There was a staggering response after Susan's riding accident. Letters were arriving at the rate of 50 a day, mostly from people she has never met, who just wanted to offer her a bit of encouragement. There was tremendous sympathy, too, for Lester."

"Funny enough, it went very quiet when she first came out of hospital and then the flood started all over again. I know it was a real lift to her."

"And the flowers. There must have been somewhere between 50 and 75 bouquets displayed at hospital and home. I joked with her that she had enough to start her own flower shop."

Haggas could not hide his admiration for his future mother-in-law. "I do take my hat off to her. She has made an incredible recovery. She's as bright as a button, but will need two more months to regain her full strength."

"It's amazing. Seven weeks ago, she was in serious danger of losing her life. She was heavily sedated and with the fractured skull there was considerable danger of brain damage. However, when she came round she soon started speaking clearly again and we knew she was going to be all right."

"The nurses were marvellous at Addenbrooke's Hospital. So cheerful, day or night, and they always kept Maureen fully in the picture."

Mention of Maureen, and her supportive role in taking over the temporary training licence for the family's Eve Lodge stables, brought unstinting praise from her fiancé.

"Maureen has coped extremely well and it certainly augurs well for my future. I think it's been helpful to her."



Happy couple: Maureen Piggott and William Haggas with his prolific winner Cold Marble at Somerville Lodge (Photograph: Chris Cole)

that I've just been around. Someone to confide in and, sometimes, just a quick phone call for a bit of advice."

Haggas is in his second season training at Somerville Lodge, in Fordham Road, Newmarket.

His family has been in racing ownership for many years. His grandmother, Muriel Haggas, a keen poker player, named her first horse, Some Hand. Most of her subsequent horses had hand in their name, including Nearly A Hand, Show Off Hands and that fine chaser Righthand Man.

But pride of place goes to William's mother, now Christine Feather, who owned one of the best chasers of recent times, Silver Buck.

The family fortune comes from textile mills in Yorkshire. On leaving Harrow, where, incidentally, he captained the first XI at cricket, William Haggas joined his father, Brian, in the family's business, based at Keighley, but after three weeks decided the industry was not for him.

Young Haggas was keen to enter racing and got the chance when Jeremy Hindley took him on as an odd-job man. He moved on to Sir Mark Prescott for two years as a pupil-assistant, and then followed spells with Brian Mayfield-Smith in Australia and John Winter, back in Newmarket.

The 28-year-old admits: "I was lucky enough to have some money behind me when I started - an inheritance from my grandfather. But money cannot buy you success. That's down to sheer hard work."

Three years ago, he thought he had served a long-enough apprenticeship and, after a detailed discussion with his father, decided: "Let's go for it."

Haggas acquired Somerville Lodge, which was Geoff Huffer's second yard and Arab-owned. The house and stables, carefully restored to pristine condition, enjoy the reputation as one of the smartest establishments in Newmarket.

Thanks to some precocious two-year-olds and his father's useful stayer in Dreams, Haggas made a fine start to his first season, winning 17 races with 26 horses.

This year, he has found the going tougher, winning so far 14 races, including four in a row with Cold Marble.

The personal trainer said: "I was never able to get my two-year-olds going this year. There's no point in training moderate horses, so I'm having a clear-out, and will try and start afresh next year."

Haggas, a great friend and rival of contemporary, William Jarvis, is ambitious and desperately wants to break through the barrier and establish himself among the middle order in Newmarket.

"Racing is so competitive nowadays, even for the small races. It's been a rough year," he reflected and his thoughts were immediately back with the Piggott family.

One happy event on the horizon, though, is his forthcoming marriage to Maureen. "It will be great having her help at Somerville Lodge. I know she'll enjoy the involvement."

A spring wedding looks the firm favourite, but William Haggas concluded: "We're not in any rush to get married. We want everything settled before we name the date. We want Lester home and relaxed and Susan fully fit."

Media Sturgeon, a consistent and courageous four-year-old just below the top class, ran well

when fourth to Mill Native in the Arlington Million in Toronto.

Cumani, who is launching another transatlantic raid in Toronto tomorrow with Sudden Love and Infamy, now plans to send yesterday's winner to Laurel Park for the Washington International tomorrow week.

"He's earned the right to go for another big race, as he's been running well all season," said the trainer.

Cumani had no firm news about the future of Kalyani, the Aga Khan's dual Derby winner who finished a respectable sixth to Tony Bin in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. "The Aga Khan's been away ever since," the trainer continued. "I'm waiting until he gets back."

In the Snailwell Maiden Stakes Sturgeon was installed favourite at 15-8 to continue the successful run being enjoyed by Sout's two-year-olds. But the Aga Khan's newcomer showed signs of inexperience and could finish only third to Green's Casanova.

Michael Roberts was recording his 114th winner of the season on William Jarvis's colt, who showed just too much speed for Shalfleet in a driving finish.

"After Michael got him settled I thought he quickened up nicely," said Jarvis. "This will be his last run of the season and we will probably make a 2,000 Guineas entry."

Green's Casanova was bought by Joss Collins of the BBA in Kentucky for \$58,000 on behalf of Richard Green, a London, fine arts dealer, who was celebrating his 28th birthday. "I couldn't think of a better birthday present," he said.

Nothing succeeds like success in racing, and John Reid's falcon, Casanova, was followed when the Ulster jockey drove Racing Home past the post a short head in front of Hawman in the EBF Nursery Handicap.

In the past 14 days, Reid has won four races, including a record 100th winner of the season and on Thursday he landed a treble at Haydock. And even the fact that he put up 21b overweight on Racing Home failed to deter him from victory.

"I thought the filly was very unlucky when fourth at Ascot last time but," said Clive Brittain, the winning trainer. "I bought her for Captain Lemos for about \$60,000."

She is the daughter of a family as Pebles and she's sure to make a good three-year-old next season.

Tony Bin can top the bill in Milan

Carroll House (Bruce Raymond) sidesteps the Dubai Champion Stakes in order to take on Tony Bin (Gianfranco Dettori) in the £114,374 Gran Premio del Jockey Club (12f) at Milan tomorrow.

Carroll House took the group one Grosser Preis von Baden on his last start, and that day beat Boyatino 7f lengths on heavy ground. That line of form would literally give him the edge over Tony Bin, but Boyatino much prefers the fast ground that saw him finish a close third in the Arc.

The ground in Milan will be good, and Tony Bin should not have too much trouble disposing of Carroll House back on home territory, prior to a possible tilt at the Breeders' Cup.

Also in Milan, Ben Hanbury's

Frozen Flower (Raymond) runs in the £18,332 Premio Omenoni (5f), while Quaxos (Dettori) has a fine opportunity to get off the mark for the season in the listed Premio Duca d'Aosta over 1m 7f.

Beechi (Richard Quinn), a winner of the Prix Foy on his last visit to Longchamp, has a chance to win the £38,710 Prix du Conseil du Paris (12f) at the Paris track tomorrow. Leston, Light Lions and Waki River are the dangers.

Gary Bardwell has again been lucky in the draw for horses for round 4 of the Long John European Apprentice Championship at Madrid tomorrow. He rides Axaxian in the first leg, and then has an excellent chance on Hobi in the second leg over a mile.

Also in Milan, Ben Hanbury's

Stable lad killed by yearling

Sean O'Brien, a stable lad at Peter Makin's Ogbourne Mansel yard in Wiltshire, was killed by one of the stable's yearlings yesterday.

A spokesman for Makin said: "Sean was helping to exercise the filly, which we bought at Newmarket on Wednesday, when she lashed out and caught him full in the chest."

"He was dead in an instant and we can only imagine that his heart stopped with the shock. Everyone here is very upset, especially as he was a local man."

O'Brien, aged 49, was born in a freestone, Mark Wilkinson, an old friend, advised me to come over and I shall be riding for him and anyone else who wants me."

"I am happy with the response over here so far and now it's a question of proving myself to the trainers."

Wilkinson, who is in his second season training on the Courage estate at Edgote, near Banbury, where such greats as Spanish Steps and Royal Relief have been trained, will have 30 in training this year.

"I am pleased Martin has come over," Wilkinson said. "He is a very good rider and will be a great asset to the stable. I shall put him up when Carl Llewellyn is required by Tim Foster."

Smart Tar, who gave Wilkinson his first Festival winner in last season's Midway of Fete, will return to Cheltenham before Christmas for either the Mackeson Gold Cup or

Lynch and Shortt give England a try

By Christopher Goulding

November 12 or the A F Budge Gold Cup on December 10.

"I have him entered in both races," Wilkinson said. "He will run only in the Mackeson if the ground is on the soft side. If not, we will wait for the Budge Gold Cup."

Shortt, a former amateur rider who was associated with Homer Scott's successful yard, is now riding for Warwickshire trainer Chris Tristram.

Shortt recently rode his first winner in this country at Stroud on the Tristram-trained River Trout.

"I've ridden 85 winners in Ireland as a freelance and thought I'd try a season in England," Shortt said.

"I am still retaining my link with Ireland and went back last weekend to ride in a hurdle race at Phoenix Park. I just hope things click over here."

With Tim Thomson Jones having retired, there is certainly a dearth of good amateurs at present. However, John Edwards has obtained the services of Philip Fenton, arguably the best amateur rider in the British Isles.

Fenton will be making frequent trips from Ireland to ride for the Ross-on-Wye trainer this season.

Shorning Bread (16-1 from 20-1) and Caps (33-1 from 50-1) were well backed yesterday with William Hill for today's Tote Cesarewitch.

Cumani's double chance

Luca Cumani has bright prospects of lifting the two big races at Woodbine, Toronto tomorrow, the \$80,000 Rothmans International (12f) and the \$300,000 E P Taylor Stakes (10f). Both races are on turf.

Infamy carries the Cumani hopes in the Rothmans, and the balance of her form suggests a fine chance against the other European challengers at least. She is joined by Ben Hanbury's Per Quod, and a French challenger comprising River Mennories, Rainforest, Renaissance, Delight and Rachmaninov.

Sudden Love deserves a major success, and may get it in the

Holly Buoy shows way

Holly Buoy was dwarfed by his opponents in the Blankney Novices Chase at Market Rasen yesterday, but gave an object lesson in jumping and came away between the last two fences to win easily.

His trainer Mary Reveley said: "He has been very successful on the Flat and over hurdles, but the handicapper has been bothering him so we sent him over fences. He's remarkably sound considering he broke a rib at Beverley two or three years ago. We thought he'd never walk again, but he's come back sound as a bell."

Also in Milan, Ben Hanbury's

Monday: Cheltenham, Leicester, Hamilton Park.
Tuesday: Leicester, Farnham Park, Southwell.
Wednesday: Redcar, Cheltenham, Uttoxeter, Huddersfield.
Thursday: Newbury, Taunton, Uttoxeter, Huddersfield.
Friday: Doncaster, Newbury, Ludlow, Carlisle.
Saturday: Doncaster, Newbury, Huddersfield, Stratford.
(Flat fixtures in bold type)

A warm welcome awaits in the Borders

A series of weekly reports on Britain's racecourses

No 7: KELSO

Kelso is the smallest and most delightful of Scotland's five racecourses, an hilarious secret society which most people ignore because it is so far away.

Unless you live in the Borders, Kelso is a long way from anywhere and one of the reasons people are so friendly may be the shared sense of amazement that anyone made it.

By mid-afternoon, when the bars are full of farmers, most of them dressed in layer after layer of tweed, all knocking back whisky and laughing at their losses, there is no happier place on earth.

Any doubts that Kelso is in Scotland are dispelled when you look at the design of the track. Not only is there a fly course, but at one point the jockeys have to violently adjust their course so as to avoid one of the greens.

There are other peculiarities. The only way on to the racecourse is across a big sheep field. To take your damsel off the suspension you should put on something like Ride of the Valkyries at full volume. If the surrounding Cheviots are draped in mist this can be quite atmospheric.

Kelso knows cold and inhospitable. It is not, but you should not bring anyone with poor circulation. Everyone you see has quite obviously ridden out two lots that morning and you

THE GOOD RACECOURSE GUIDE

will not be popular with your frozen, city girlfriend if you start marvelling at the complexities of her locally-bred contemporaries.

This is Border country and, apart from horses, the big topic is rugby union. Last season, the senior steward broke off during the presentation of a cup to say a few words about the following Saturday's Scotland-Ireland match. He was vigorously applauded.

The racecourse had belongs to the Duke of Roxburgh. There are few abandonments at Kelso because the Cheviots protect it from the weather and this is why the fifth Duke turned it into a racecourse in 1823.

He also built a private stand, a listed building which now serves very well as the main grandstand. There are huge coal fires in every room and, with its splendid period chimneys, the building looks more like a house.

Sitting down to lunch in the upstairs Club restaurant, it does not feel as if you are at a racecourse at all, not least because the food, though simple, is excellent.

There are two main drinking areas and both are fairly

extraordinary. The main Members' Bar is right next to the running rail. It is so close that if someone opened a window during a race, a stray drink could knock the glass out of your hand.

You never have to wait long for a drink because the bar itself is about 50 yards long and well-stocked. A measure of whisky here is one-fifth of a gill, compared with one-sixth in England, and costs a mere 80p. Some people are so shocked by this news they have to order a double and sit down.

The Tin Bar is the other haunt and is particularly popular with the local farmers and permit trainers, who call it "the chicken shack". Made of corrugated iron, it has no windows or heating.

Some years ago the management installed a light bulb so that people could at least see their drinks but this caused such a stir among the regulars that plans to smarten it up further were hurriedly scrapped.

There are 11 fixtures a year and because the prize-money is slightly higher than normal for such a small course, a lot of good horses from northern England run here.

The track itself is quite demanding, with stiff fences and a run-in that is almost as long as Aintree's and with a similar dog-leg. Kelso is a good testing-ground for a Grand National horse. For instance, Rabotic finished up here before winning at Liverpool in 1979.

Attendances have crept up during his tenure but they are

still no bigger than 1,500 in midweek and 3,000 at weekends.

Kelso's clerk of the course is David McHugh, who comes from a long line of racing officials. He took over the job in 1981 from his father, Bill. Although McHugh is involved in the running of all Scotland's racecourses, Kelso is probably his favourite.

McHugh is a mine of information about Scottish racing. He has a camel-hair coat named after Harry Hedges, the last Scottish-trained horse to win at the Cheltenham Festival.

He is built like a rugby forward and, factually, he resembles the villain in the James Bond film who had metal teeth. He is perfectly amiable, though.

So is everyone at Kelso. You can never start the journey home without being invited to someone's place for supper. Don't listen to these street voices. Get straight in your car. Otherwise by midnight you'll never want to return to England.

Except, perhaps, once a year for Cheltenham.

Rating
One jockey's cap denotes awful; two, bearable; three, average; four, very good; five, excellent.

ALL THE DETAILS

FOOD: Better than average. The caterer is Ian Henderson of the Black Swan Inn, Kelso (tel. 0573 245693). He keeps it simple but tasty.

ENTERTAINING: Two suites with room for 50 people and three boxes which hold 30 people are available for hire.

INQUIRIES: Richard Laidlaw, Sale & Partners, 18-20 Gladstone Road, Wooler, Northumberland NE71 8DW. Tel: 0668 81611.

BIG-RACE DATES: Arkel Conquest Chase, November 8; Hamilton Memorial Chase and Morebattle Hurdle (Champion Hurdle trial), February 24.

PARKING: Free.

DRESS: Warm clothes.

Prince Of Dance forced to share Dewhurst spoils

By Michael Seely, Racing Correspondent

A thrilling finish between Prince Of Dance and Scenic at Newmarket yesterday resulted in the first dead-heat since 1910 in the Three Chimneys Dewhurst Stakes.

A furlong from home Prince Of Dance, the 6-4 favourite, looked sure to win, but in the last few strides Michael Hills forced the 33-1 outsider Scenic to share the verdict on the line.

Willy Carson was seen at his strongest on Prince Of Dance but Hills gave nothing away on the dead-heat. Scenic finished strongly, taking third place, only half a length behind the principals.

This victory gave both the Dick Hern stable and also Barry Hills their first victory in what is always considered to be the two-year-old Derby. Both the dead-heaters are sired by Sadler's Wells.

Neil Graham, of course, is temporarily holding the licence at West Hiley, but speaking from his home, he said: "It was a tough and game performance by both horses. The Dewhurst is a race that I've always wanted to win. I should think that Prince Of Dance is now likely to be entered for the 2,000 Guineas."

Hills also sees the first of the colts' classic as a likely target for Sheikh Mohammed's winner. "Basically, I see him as a mile or ten furlong horse rather than as a Derby colt."

Half-an-hour earlier, Michael Stoute had shown as a live contender for the 1,000 Guineas when Musical Bliss put up a remarkably spirited performance to beat Jajuli by two lengths in the Bostham Heath Stud Rocking Stakes.

Not a bit deterred by already having had six seconds, two thirds and a fourth in the 1,000, the trainer said: "I'm going to change my tactics. I'm confident of winning next Spring's Guineas as I've got some good fillies." Musical Bliss is favourite for the Guineas with all bookmaking firms at prices varying from the 10-1 with William Hill to 16-1 that is on offer with Coral.

Favourite backers had started the afternoon on a good note when Ray Cochrane brought Media Sturgeon home four lengths clear of Opatz in the Beating International Derby Stakes. Starting at 11-8 on, Luca Cumani's four-year-old was always travelling easily and drew clear from the Buzis for an easy win.

Media Sturgeon, a consistent and courageous four-year-old just below the top class, ran well

Dick Hinder

KELSO

Selections

By Mandarin

2.15 Ben Ledi, 2.45 Sebdehanni, 3.15 Tartan Truismark, 3.45 Ishkhara, 4.15 High Edge Grey, 4.45 Fred O'Holman.

Going: good

2.15 EQUINE NOVICES HURDLE (21,015: 2m) (15 runners)

1. 015 WIK FLAHERTY (2) (Duff) W A Stephenson 4-11-5
2. 2105 RED PROCESSION 14 (W.A.F.) P Lids 4-11-5
3. 008- ALLEN 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0
4. 009- HILL 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0
5. 010- HILL 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0
6. 011- HILL 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0
7. 012- HILL 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0
8. 013- HILL 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0
9. 014- HILL 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0
10. 015- HILL 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0
11. 016- HILL 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0
12. 017- HILL 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0
13. 018- HILL 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0
14. 019- HILL 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0
15. 020- HILL 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0

2.45 FERNETHILL SELLING HURDLE (2807: 2m) (12)

1. 1. BANTER BLAZER SF Miss M Bell 4-11-10 W Haggas
2. 002 LIDDERSHAW SF P Macdonald 4-11-10 D Miles
3. 003 LIDDERSHAW SF P Macdonald 4-11-10 D Miles
4. 004 LIDDERSHAW SF P Macdonald 4-11-10 D Miles
5. 005 LIDDERSHAW SF P Macdonald 4-11-10 D Miles
6. 006 LIDDERSHAW SF P Macdonald 4-11-10 D Miles
7. 007 LIDDERSHAW SF P Macdonald 4-11-10 D Miles
8. 008 LIDDERSHAW SF P Macdonald 4-11-10 D Miles
9. 009 LIDDERSHAW SF P Macdonald 4-11-10 D Miles
10. 010 LIDDERSHAW SF P Macdonald 4-11-10 D Miles
11. 011 LIDDERSHAW SF P Macdonald 4-11-10 D Miles
12. 012 LIDDERSHAW SF P Macdonald 4-11-10 D Miles

3.15 ECKFORD NOVICES CHASE (21,235: 2m 6f) (10)

2. 4-1 PARRING 10 (S) J Brookbank 7-12-0 P Dando
3. 4-1 BALMORCELLO 10 (S) R Baidger 6-7-7
4. 4-1 BURLING JACK 10 (S) J Brookbank 7-12-0 P Dando
5. 4-1 BURLING JACK 10 (S) J Brookbank 7-12-0 P Dando
6. 4-1 BURLING JACK 10 (S) J Brookbank 7-12-0 P Dando
7. 4-1 BURLING JACK 10 (S) J Brookbank 7-12-0 P Dando
8. 4-1 BURLING JACK 10 (S) J Brookbank 7-12-0 P Dando
9. 4-1 BURLING JACK 10 (S) J Brookbank 7-12-0 P Dando
10. 4-1 BURLING JACK 10 (S) J Brookbank 7-12-0 P Dando
11. 4-1 BURLING JACK 10 (S) J Brookbank 7-12-0 P Dando
12. 4-1 BURLING JACK 10 (S) J Brookbank 7-12-0 P Dando

3.45 JOHN MITCHELL FOR OILS HANDBICAP HURDLE (Amateur: 22,578: 2m 6f) (12)

1. 110- AURE ROW 27 (S) G A Brown 5-11-0 G Chapman 7
2. 111- AURE ROW 27 (S) G A Brown 5-11-0 G Chapman 7
3. 112- AURE ROW 27 (S) G A Brown 5-11-0 G Chapman 7
4. 113- AURE ROW 27 (S) G A Brown 5-11-0 G Chapman 7
5. 114- AURE ROW 27 (S) G A Brown 5-11-0 G Chapman 7
6. 115- AURE ROW 27 (S) G A Brown 5-11-0 G Chapman 7
7. 116- AURE ROW 27 (S) G A Brown 5-11-0 G Chapman 7
8. 117- AURE ROW 27 (S) G A Brown 5-11-0 G Chapman 7
9. 118- AURE ROW 27 (S) G A Brown 5-11-0 G Chapman 7
10. 119- AURE ROW 27 (S) G A Brown 5-11-0 G Chapman 7
11. 120- AURE ROW 27 (S) G A Brown 5-11-0 G Chapman 7
12. 121- AURE ROW 27 (S) G A Brown 5-11-0 G Chapman 7

4.15 ANTHONY MARSHALL TROPHY (Handicap chase: 22,408: 3m) (7)

1. 308- THE LANGHORN 10 (S) G A Brown 5-11-0 G Chapman 7
2. 309- THE LANGHORN 10 (S) G A Brown 5-11-0 G Chapman 7
3. 310- THE LANGHORN 10 (S) G A Brown 5-11-0 G Chapman 7
4. 311- THE LANGHORN 10 (S) G A Brown 5-11-0 G Chapman 7
5. 312- THE LANGHORN 10 (S) G A Brown 5-11-0 G Chapman 7
6. 313- THE LANGHORN 10 (S) G A Brown 5-11-0 G Chapman 7
7. 314- THE LANGHORN 10 (S) G A Brown 5-11-0 G Chapman 7

4.45 EQUINE NOVICES HURDLE (21,014: 2m) (11)

1. 001- ALBANY 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0
2. 002- ALBANY 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0
3. 003- ALBANY 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0
4. 004- ALBANY 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0
5. 005- ALBANY 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0
6. 006- ALBANY 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0
7. 007- ALBANY 145 (R) D Macdonald 5-11-0
8. 008- ALB

Roberts ready for lucrative double

By Mandarin
(Michael Phillips)

South African-born jockey Michael Roberts can crown what has already been his best season riding in Europe by landing a lucrative double at Newmarket today on INDIAN SKIMMER (2.55) and RUSSIAN AFFAIR (4.10).

Winning the Dubai Champion Stakes on Indian Skimmer will earn him the £100,000 prize-money bonus which the jockey's owner, a prominent member of the Maktoum family which sponsors the race.

All those who love to see a talented and brave racehorse in action will hope that Indian Skimmer wins. For this is an English wine.

Her only other race before a life spent in the paddocks will be the 2,500m "Trotter" Cup race on the turf over 2,500m at Churchill Downs, Kentucky on November 5.

Yesterday, her trainer Henry Cecil was so sure that she will follow the form in triumph following the rain which fell in the area earlier this week.

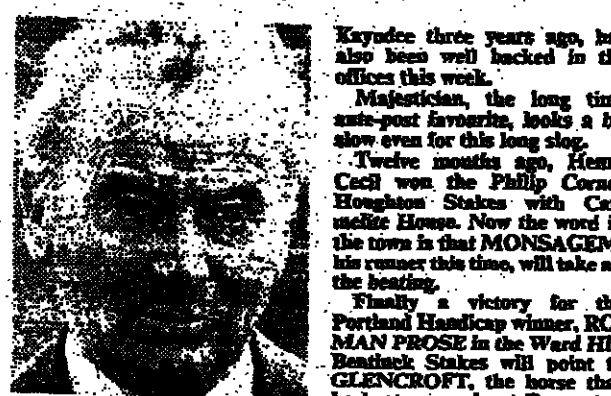
For the ground was not too hard at York in August when she was beaten by two of today's rivals, Persian Heights and Silky Heights.

In the meantime, she has beaten both two at Phoenix Park and Percy's Lass, over today's course and distance a fortnight ago.

At the Arc, where she was the favourite, she was beaten by the Arc winner, the only other runner is Doyoun who only has been on today's track.

First last season and then again in the spring when he won the Craven Stakes and 2,000 Guineas.

The last time that the Toté, Cesarewitch was won by a horse trained at South Hatch in Essex was in 1983 when Brian



Reg Akers: Cesarewitch winner, RO-MAN PROSE in the Ward Hill Handicap Stakes will point to GLENCLIFF, the horse that has won the race for the last three years.

Having gone up to the top of the list, the horse that has won the race for the last three years, the horse that has won the race for the last three years, the horse that has won the race for the last three years.

Now, after a five-year break, it may well be by another horse from that family, this time trained by Reg Akers.

I refer to RUSSIAN AFFAIR, who should be a contender for the Cesarewitch, a race which has been won by a horse from that family, this time trained by Reg Akers.

For that was his first race after a well-deserved 10-week rest.

I favour a fresh horse for today's marathon and further, I think that Russian Affair will be a contender for the Cesarewitch, a race which has been won by a horse from that family, this time trained by Reg Akers.

Earlier in the season, Russian Affair was well enough behind Zero Watt in the Ascot Stakes to suggest that he would go close in today's race carrying 12.5 lb.

In contrast, Zero Watt seems to have plenty on his plate with 9st 10lb even though he is fresh.

It took a horse of the calibre of Zero Watt to win with that sort of weight a few years back and he is no John Cherry.

Overdrive is another who appears to have plenty to do. Andorra, from the stable which headed that mighty coup, has

Keynote three years ago, has also been well backed in the office this week.

Maestrican, the long time ante-post favourite, looks a bit slow even for the long stop.

Twelve months ago, Henry Cecil won the Philip Morris Handicap Stakes with Camelot House. Now the word in the office is that MONSIEUR, his runner this time, will take all the beating.

Finally, the victory for the Portland Handicap winner, ROMAN PROSE in the Ward Hill Handicap Stakes will point to GLENCLIFF, the horse that has won the race for the last three years.

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4.45 WARD HILL BENTINCK STAKES (Listed race: £11,257: 5f) (12 runners)

501	(1)	001011	TEENING SHORE 7 (C.G.S.) (T. Rooney) M. Prescott 3-8-11	G. Duffield	84
502	(4)	811043	CHUMMYS FAVOURITE 21 (P. H.) (M. H.) M. Prescott 3-8-10	G. Duffield	74
503	(6)	3-3050	COME ON CHASE ME 22 (D.J.F.) (D. H.) M. Prescott 3-8-10	G. Duffield	74
504	(9)	53225	EVER SHARP 38 (D.J.F.) (D. H.) M. Prescott 3-8-10	G. Duffield	74
505	(11)	410211	MAC'S FIGHTER 21 (D.J.F.) (D. H.) M. Prescott 3-8-10	G. Duffield	74
506	(12)	111043	MAC'S FIGHTER 21 (D.J.F.) (D. H.) M. Prescott 3-8-10	G. Duffield	74
507	(1)	111043	MAC'S FIGHTER 21 (D.J.F.) (D. H.) M. Prescott 3-8-10	G. Duffield	74
508	(2)	111043	MAC'S FIGHTER 21 (D.J.F.) (D. H.) M. Prescott 3-8-10	G. Duffield	74
509	(3)	111043	MAC'S FIGHTER 21 (D.J.F.) (D. H.) M. Prescott 3-8-10	G. Duffield	74
510	(4)	111043	MAC'S FIGHTER 21 (D.J.F.) (D. H.) M. Prescott 3-8-10	G. Duffield	74
511	(5)	111043	MAC'S FIGHTER 21 (D.J.F.) (D. H.) M. Prescott 3-8-10	G. Duffield	74
512	(6)	111043	MAC'S FIGHTER 21 (D.J.F.) (D. H.) M. Prescott 3-8-10	G. Duffield	74

BETTING: 2-1 Ever Sharp, 11-4 Teening Shore, 9-2 Roman Prose, 7-1 Mac's Fighter, Wing Park, 15-1 Peach Girl, 20-1 others.

1987: PERIOD 5-8-0 Pat Eddowes (11-4) G. Lewis 11 ran

FORM TEENING SHORE attempts to continue a brace of wins over this trip at Goodwood and Newmarket. Best recent (see 502) 10 on last night's course with PEACE GIRL (4-2) at Doncaster last time with CHUMMYS FAVOURITE (10-1) at York. CHUMMYS FAVOURITE was 11-10 to Cadeaux Generale at Ascot (5-1) last time.

EVER SHARP was in the frame behind stable companion PERCY'S LASS (see 503) at Doncaster last time.

MAC'S FIGHTER was 11-10 to Cadeaux Generale at Ascot (5-1) last time.

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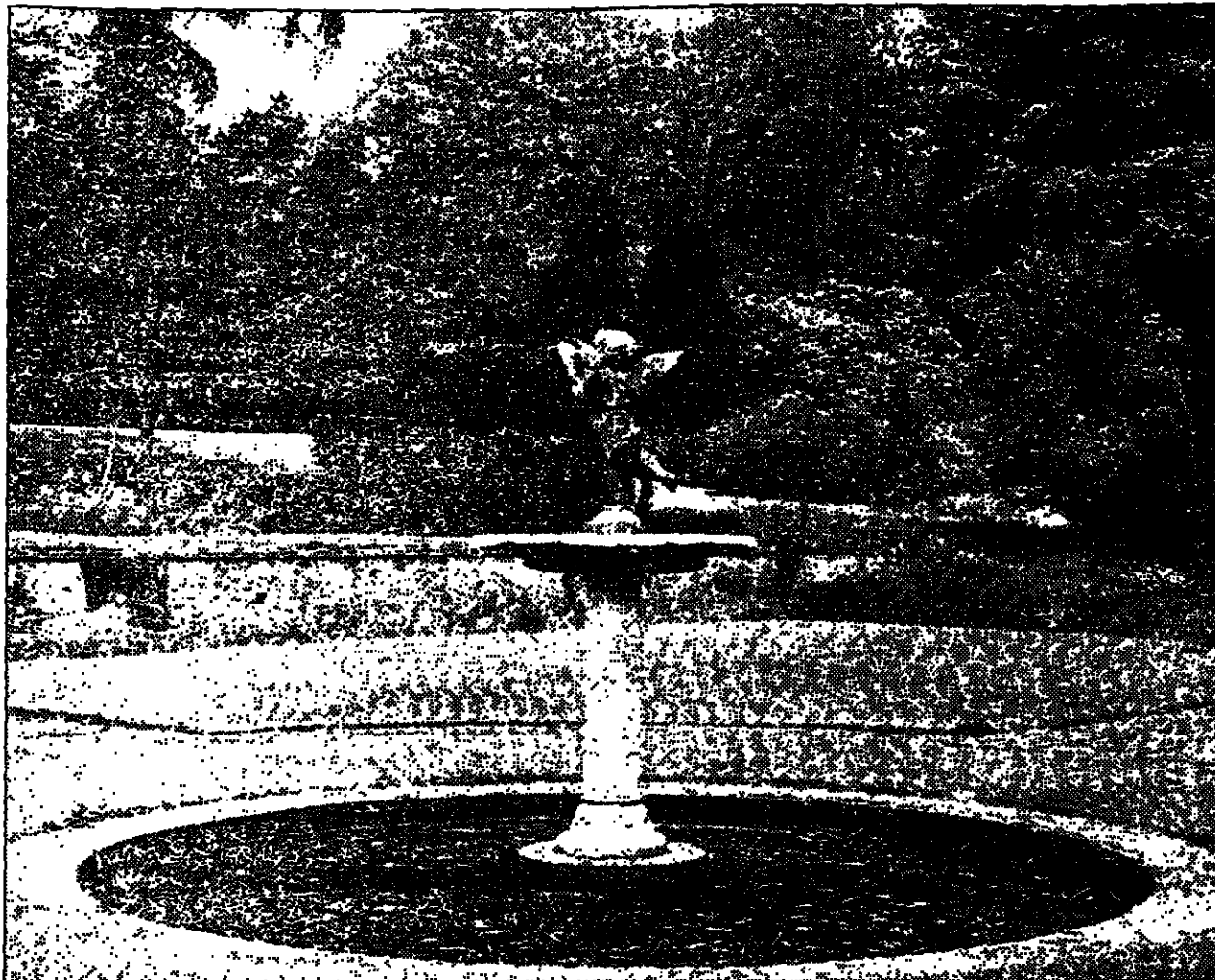
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GARDENING



Kent colour: a view of the water garden at Emmetts, one of the highest gardens in the county (see listing)

Argyll: Glencruttan House, Oban, Glencruttan Estate, 1.5m from Oban; extensive wooded parkland, azaleas, rockeries, herbaceous borders, water garden, admission 50p, child under 13, 25p; parking free; daily until Oct 31; 10am-6pm.

Dorset: Minterne, Minterne Magna, A352; rhododendron and shrub garden, many fine and rare trees, lakes, cascades; admission £1, child and parking free; daily until Oct 31; 10am-7pm.

Hampshire: Cold Hays, Steep Marsh, turn off A325 Petersfield-Farnham road, off Petersfield-Alresford road 3m from Petersfield; medium-sized garden, flowering trees and shrubs, beautiful views; admission 50p, child 25p; tomorrow, 2-6pm.

Hereford and Worcester: Sodenham Arboretum, 2m N of Wolverley, 5m N of Kidderminster; 128 acres, newly created arboretum, 10 pools, more than 1,000 species and varieties of

common and rare interesting trees and shrubs; take Wellingtons or strong boots; admission 50p, child under 13, 25p; parties at other times of the year by appointment (???? 850382).

Kent: Emmetts Garden, Ide Hill, Sevenoaks; 1.5m N of Ide Hill off B2042; five-acre hillside garden, one of the highest in Kent; fine collection of rare trees and shrubs, excellent autumn colour; admission £1.50, child 80p; until end of Oct, Tues to Fri and Sun, 2-6pm.

Lochaber: Ardornish, Lochaline, Morvern; 3m Lochaline route A884; interesting garden, mature conifers, deciduous trees and shrubs, amid magnificent scenery; admission £1, child free; daily until Oct 31; 10am-6pm.

Norfolk: Felbrigg Hall, Roughton, 2.7m SW of Cromer, S of A148, main entrance from B1436; large pleasure grounds, lawns,

shrubs, orangery, walled garden recently restored, fruit, vegetables, and flowers; dahlias, superb colchicums; admission 50p, child 25p; until Oct 30, Mon, Wed, Thurs, Sat and Sun, 11am-5pm; garden only 1.30-5.30pm; garden only on open days from 11am-5.30pm.

North Yorkshire: Benningbrough Hall, Shipton-by-Benningbrough; intimate formal gardens, in various colour schemes; admission house and garden £2.20, child £1; garden and exhibition £1.70, child 50p; Tue, Wed, Thurs, Sat, Sun, to end of Oct, noon-5pm; Nov weekends only, noon-5pm.

Oxfordshire: Priors Close, Stanford-in-the-Vale; 3.5m SE of Farnham, turn off A417 opposite Vale Garage, or off A420 at sign for Pusey and Stanford-in-the-Vale; medium-sized garden, maintained by one of the owners; trees and shrubs, herbaceous plants, autumn colour, good use of old walls with plants

to enhance design; admission 50p, child free; today and tomorrow, 2-5.30pm.

Somerset: Dunster Castle, nr Minehead; in Dunster village, 3m SE of Minehead on A396, just off A39; 28-acre park, terraced garden of rare shrubs; admission castle, garden and park £2.80, child £1.40; garden only £1.50, child 50p; 10-minute steep climb to castle from car park; Sun to Thurs until Oct 30; 2-4pm; last admission 3.30pm.

Surrey: Claremont Landscape Garden, 1.5m SE of Esher, on E side of A307; earliest surviving landscape garden; open all year, daily to end of Oct, 9am-7pm, or sunset if earlier; Nov to Mar 9am-4pm.

Warwickshire: Ivy Lodge, Radway; 7m NW of Banbury, via A41 and B4086, turn right down Edgely; 14m SE of Stratford on A422, left below Edgely; four acres, new wildflower area, roses; admission 60p, child 30p; tomorrow, 11am-4pm.

Roy Hay

GARDENS TO VISIT

Apple of Girton's eye

Orchards are places of romance and contemplation, where poets and public figures retire to refresh the spirit. Fruit trees used to be a necessary adjunct to any estate or garden; without them, would Isaac Newton have promulgated the law of gravity (beneath, so it is said, the apple tree Flower of Kent) or Andrew Marvell have written his great garden poem?

Many old orchards have been destroyed by agricultural expansion and the remaining ones are being eyed greedily by property developers. When they are still in production, orchards have been turned into acres of dwarf trees which look like overgrown tomato plants. A campaign, "Save Our Orchards", has been launched by the organization Common Ground; it has brought a flush of inquiries from people who own small orchards which they want to preserve, but do not know how to do so.

An example of enlightened conservation is to be found at Girton College, Cambridge, where their Old Orchard, established soon after the college was founded, is considered important both as a historical artefact and as a place of recreation. The head gardener, Robert Bramley (no connection with the famous cooking apple), is keen to continue the policy of keeping the orchard as open and



CLARE ROBERTS

inviting as possible. He can afford to ignore the trend towards dwarf trees. "I choose trees that an undergraduate can lean against."

The trees, some of which date back to original planting in the early 1900s, some recently planted, are "in balance with the soil". To fertilize and prune them for maximum cropping would produce more apples, but result in other problems. There are, in any case, plenty of apples for the Girton tables. Robert Bramley rarely uses

pesticides in the orchards. "If I spray, it is an emergency for an individual tree, not routine." In fact, having an old-fashioned mixed orchard with apples, pears, plums and nuts of different varieties, helps limit the spread of disease as the trees have differing strengths and susceptibilities and disaster does not strike as comprehensively as it does with monoculture.

If an old tree of an interesting variety begins to fail, it is propagated from grafts of its healthy wood. Propagation

and continuous replacement is a long-standing policy at Girton, so younger trees are dotted about among the venerable ones.

Many of Robert Bramley's ideas can be applied to small orchards attached to or within gardens. Pruning need not be carried out every year; priority should be given to cleaning out dead and badly diseased wood, congested and crossing branches. If heavy pruning is required, it is best to do it over two or three years to limit the shock to an old tree. Some nurseries will perpetuate a much-loved individual tree by grafting, but most varieties can be obtained from one of the specialist fruit nurseries. Most will be sold on a dwarfing stock so if you have room for a tree-sized tree, do specify that you would like a half standard or standard tree.

Above all, if you have always desired an orchard and have some space in your garden, do not be afraid of planting, say four to six trees, perhaps dwarfing and half standard. Private gardeners can thoroughly enjoy the pleasures of local and more unusual varieties, and recreate the spirit of the beautiful orchards of the past.

Francesca Greenoak Save Our Orchards leaflet is available from Common Ground, 45 Shelton Street, Covent Garden, London WC2H 9BJ (S&E please).

Take pot luck with your lilies

GARDEN NEWS

Lilies in pots are among the most rewarding of container plants. The white regale lilies are among the easiest to grow and make a beautiful, heavily fragrant show in summer. Tiger lilies make a fiery spotted display which lasts until the autumn winds begin to blow. Growing this species in pots has two advantages: the pot can be placed to dramatic effect, where the orange turk's-cap blooms do not clash with other colours; and isolating them from other lilies disrupts the spread of virus diseases. There are many other species and a vast range of hybrids, but it is best to try to match the proportions of plant and pot. A pot about 12 inches (30cm) wide and deep will make a good display with three bulbs planted in it. Now

they are available, placed well down in the pot to allow about 2 inches (5cm) of compost above them.

The planted-up pots should be placed under shelter for the winter (but not in heated conditions which will start them growing) and taken outside in spring. Feeding with a proprietary balanced fertilizer, or top dressing with blood, fish and bone, and giving a watering with liquid seaweed gives nourishment to vigorously growing plants when they have used up the nutrients in the compost and they need regular watering. Replanting need be done only every two, or even three, years (in October); in other years, the top layer of compost must be removed and replaced with fresh: early in spring.

WEEKEND TIPS

- Water greenhouse plants only in the morning as the days get damper and ventilate during midday light hours.
- Plant spring cabbage seedlings without delay.
- Clean and overhaul mowing machines before storing them away for the winter.
- Plant small portions of chives and mint plants in pots and keep in a frame or greenhouse.
- Continue to plant evergreens and conifers.
- Cut the tops from Jerusalem artichokes and begin to lift the tubers.
- Trim any hedges so far unshorn, during the next week or two.

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The series of World Cup tournaments organized by the Grandmaster Association, a kind of top players' trade union set up by Gary Kasparov, is continuing, as I write, in Reykjavik. The Icelandic capital put itself firmly on the world chess map by staging the celebrated 1972

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The World Cup consists of six tournaments spread over a two-year period with a total prize fund of £1,200,000 at stake. This represents a financial revolution - in the past, only those who reached the final of the world matchplay championship could truly expect to reap serious money from their endeavours. This much as the World Chess Federation (FIDE) cycle is geared to establishing the world matchplay champion. FIDE and the GMA are in a state of uneasy coexistence at the moment, as one might

Cold pressure in Iceland

Fischer-Spassky clash, and the chess-crazy Icelanders are determined to maintain this fine tradition. It should never be overlooked that Iceland dwarfs even the Soviet Union in terms of Grandmasters per 100,000 of population, with its tiny number of citizens yet no less than six Grandmasters.

The GMA World Cup is designed to create a tournament world champion, to be seen, however, whether the amateur group (FIDE) or the professionals (GMA) will triumph in this respect.

The exchange variation of the Queen's Gambit normally presages an attack by White on the Queen's wing. Here, however, as we shall see, Kasparov has a quite different idea in mind.

A standard manoeuvre to alleviate his position by swapping pieces.

9 Bx7 Qx7 10 Ng2 g6 11 0-0-0 Ng6 12 Ng3 g5 13 Kx1 Bx7 14 Rx1 0-0-0

expect from two organizations headed by Kasparov and his arch enemy, the controversial Filipino, Florencio Campomanes. I believe world chess will be on a more stable footing if one of these two bodies assumes control of all world title events. It remains week's game is a win by Kasparov from Reykjavik against the virtually invulnerable Swedish Grandmaster, Ulf Andersson.

White: Kasparov; Black: Andersson. Queen's Gambit Declined, Reykjavik, World Cup October 1988.

1 d4 Nf6 2 e4 e6 3 Nc3 d5 4 exd5 Nxd5 5 Bb5 e5 6 Qe2 Be7

7 e3 Nbd7 8 Bc5 Nf5 9 Bx7 Qx7 10 Ng2 g6 11 0-0-0 Ng6 12 Ng3 g5 13 Kx1 Bx7 14 Rx1 0-0-0

15 Nf4 Nf6 16 Qd4 Kf8 17 Qd5 Bg7 18 Bb3 Nf6 19 Bx7 Qx7 20 Ng2 g6 21 Nf1 Kf8 22 Ng3 g5 23 Nf4 Nf6 24 Qd4 Kf8 25 Bb3 Nf6 26 Qd5 Bg7 27 Qd6 Bg7 28 Qd4 Kf8 29 Nf4 Nf6 30 Qd5 Bg7 31 Nf4 Nf6 32 Qd4 Kf8 33 Nf4 Nf6 34 Qd5 Bg7 35 Nf4 Nf6 36 Qd4 Kf8 37 Qd5 Bg7 38 Bb3 Nf6 39 Bx7 Qx7 40 Ng2 g6 41 0-0-0 Ng6 42 Ng3 g5 43 Kx1 Bx7 44 Rx1 0-0-0

BRIDGE

Too much too young

too expensive in terms of concentration. Inevitably errors creep in, errors which they will eliminate as they adopt a more pragmatic approach.

Patrick Jourdain described this fine defence in the official bulletin.

Junior European Championships. Poland v Finland. Love All. Dealer South.

♠ K J 8
♥ Q 10 8 5
♦ 7 6 3 2
♣ A 10 6

♠ 9 8 5 3
♥ A K 10 9 8 4
♦ Q 7 5 4
♣ Q J 10 9 8 4

In the closed room Poland were permitted to play in one no trump. The lead of a low heart left declarer with an easy seven tricks. 90 to Poland. This was the bidding on Vu-Graph:

W N E S
Jasson Salami Kilmart Valt
17 No 40 No 14
No 40 No 14

Andersson has a finely tuned sense of danger. It would be more conventional at this point to castle King side, but the Swede doubtless feared that Kasparov would whip up a pawn advance in that sector, eg by playing h4. Accordingly, he tucks his King away on the opposite edge of the board, but even here it is not immune to threats.

Black to weaken the pawn shield in front of his King.

Here, and on the next move, it would be foolhardy to capture on h2 with the Black Queen, thus removing his own most powerful unit from the defence of his King.

Kasparov's excellent manoeuvre, bringing his light-squared Bishop to g2, has placed the maximum strain on Black's pawn constellation stretching from a7 to d5. Now, in severe time trouble, and

probably yearning for some activity, having been subjected to pressure for so long, Andersson desperately seeks to conjure up some counterplay. He lashes out with his "c" pawn, which has been the primary target in his camp. Nevertheless, Black's 28th move merely weakens his own position, and he soon loses material. If instead 28... Bb7 then 29 Ne5!

Kasparov's 29th and 32nd moves between them ensured that the defenders of Black's pawn on d5 were eliminated. White now gains a pawn, thus ensuring victory, since Black has not a shred of compensation.

Black resigns. In the King and pawn endgame Andersson cannot cope in time, both with White's passed "e" pawn, and the passed pawn which will rapidly be produced from Kasparov's Queen side majority.

Raymond Keene

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1694

Prizes of the 1988 Collins Concise Dictionary will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday October 20. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, October 22.

ACROSS
1 Fractured (6)
5 Surviving wife (5)
8 Ibadan state (3)
9 Red Bordeaux wine (6)
10 Course sieve (6)
11 Slayer of Jezebel (6)
12 Spittoon (8)
14 Scrapes feet (6)
15 Forearm flexor (6)
16 Maintain dignity (4,4)
18 Trail (4)
21 Twist round (6)
19 Sink (6)
22 Skating area (3)
23 Fast (5)
24 Eating (6)

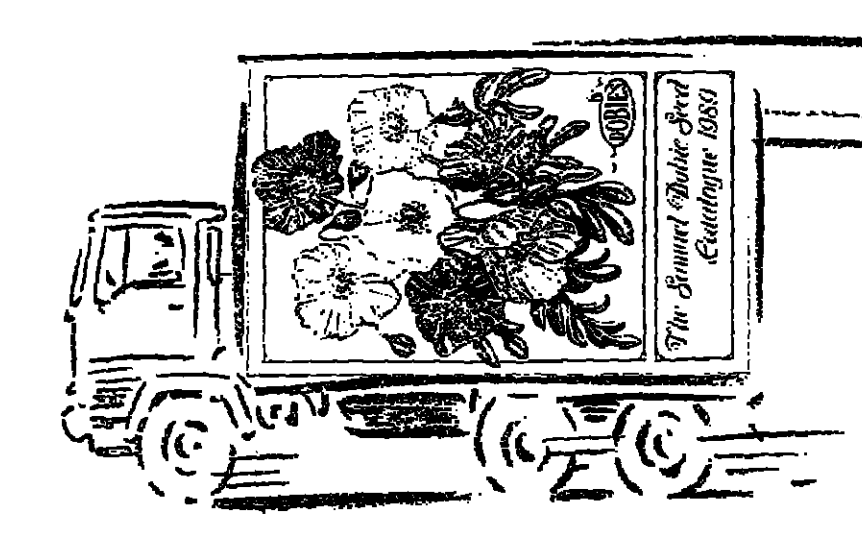
DOWN
2 Big dipper (6,7)
3 Commemoration (9)
4 Observes (7)
5 Factory (5)
6 Father (3)
7 Blue China trees (6,7)
8 In our 7 Off centre 8 Play 11 Stockpile 13 Portrait 16 Killing 17 Level 19 Built 21 Bawl 24 Eve

The winners of prize crossword No 1694 are Mrs E. Williams, Blyth, Brn Glyn, Gwynedd, and D.C. Cowell, Ex-Road, Carlisle.

SOLUTION TO NO 1693
ACROSS: 1 Facade 4 Eskimo 5 Egg trip 10 Aloud 11 Soot 12 Lay siege 14 Option 15 Rocket 18 Kibitz 20 Foe 22 Ibis 23 Examine 25 Entity 26 Flange

DOWN: 1 Foe 2 Croquet 3 Dark 5 Snaps 6 In our 7 Off centre 8 Play 11 Stockpile 13 Portrait 16 Killing 17 Level 19 Built 21 Bawl 24 Eve

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BETTER

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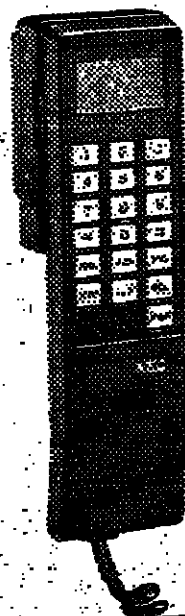
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their effortless power. Compare that with the Vauxhall Carlton 2.0i GL and CD, the Rover 827i fastback and the Saab 9000i, which don't. You also have the added security of a 6-year anti-perforation warranty and 3-year warranty insurance on all Croma models.

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OUTDOOR LEISURE

Diving into brave new worlds

The gentle art of diving exerts a strong pull on those who wish to fathom the secrets of the ocean. Ronald Faux plunges into the compelling underwater world of the scuba diver

Most divers train to dive, just a few have diving thrust upon them. My assignment was to cover an expedition to the Out Skerries in Shetland where in November 1711 the *De Liefde*, a Dutch East Indiaman, struck the low-lying shore, obscured at the time by darkness and a storm.

Only one man survived. He was scanning the blackness from the crow's nest for signs of danger. When the ship struck, the watchman was catapulted onto a cliff top while all his ship mates drowned in the sea below. The legend runs that long afterwards a south-easterly storm would stir up a bombardment of gold and silver coins from the shattered vessel, tossed as spindrift onto the cliff top.

Romantic nonsense perhaps, but more than 250 years later divers carrying out an archaeological survey retrieved several thousand silver ducatoons from the wreck site—hence my assignment. Get the atmosphere, they said, watch them digging for silver, describe the scene.

The *De Liefde* is just one of countless wrecks strewn around the British coastline, intriguing time capsules that mark a moment in history or in marine development. It is this sense of frozen history attaching to a wrecked ship that attracts divers almost as much as the excitement of discovering the contents.

The trouble with the *De Liefde* was that as I floated face down on the surface watching and breathing through a snorkel, the divers carrying out the operation merely disappeared each morning in a froth of bubbles into an impenetrable green gloom. There was nothing for me to describe.

Thus diving was thrust upon



The incomparable beauty of tropical diving in the Caribbean: "A spellbinding world in which it would be easy for a diver to forget such worldly items as time, air and depths."

me; a crash course with one of the *De Liefde* divers, a former Royal Navy Petty Officer instructor, in the art of using the self-contained underwater breathing apparatus—scuba for short.

This comprises a large cylinder of compressed air held in a cradle and strapped to the back. A valve at the neck of the cylinder is linked by a hose to a demand valve held in the mouth by biting it. A belt of lead weights gave "negative buoyancy", a chilling term, and two indicators showed how much air remained in the cylinder and how deep down we were.

There were simple mimes to learn, signals to your partner to inform him, for example, "my air has run out" (a slicing movement across the throat); also a list of do's and don'ts—never rise faster than your slowest bubble, never dive alone and be aware of the several

ever-present enemies of the scuba diver—the bends, the narcs, gas poisoning in various guises, how not to contract an exploding lung and the most obvious enemy of all—drowning.

"Stay calm, relax, breath easily," my Petty Officer declared two days later as we were about to descend 80 feet into the green gloom guarding the remains of the *De Liefde*.

The ship had crumbled to become part of the seabed, camouflaged by silt, kelp and boulders that were once part of the shoreline. In my patient exploration with a spoon I did find one remnant of treasure, a solitary ducatoon. But the experience was a solid introduction to the gentle art of diving, now an important arm of marine archaeology and a fascination for enthusiasts who prefer to use their skill and

experience at scuba diving to practical purpose.

My next diving assignment was to the Caribbean and Port Royal in Jamaica where a British university was directing a submarine "dig" on Henry Morgan's old headquarters.

The town was destroyed by earthquake in 1692 and has yielded a priceless collection of artefacts including silver pieces of eight, pewter, pottery, bronze bells and artillery pieces and cutlery, although there was an almost total absence of forks, suggesting that most Port Royal citizens ate with their fingers. It is by adding together such clues that marine archaeologists build up their pictures of life as it used to be on these submarine sites.

Jamaica introduced me to the potential menace of tropical waters. The town lay on a spur at the

mouth of Kingston harbour at a spot where the sea was grey with the liquid rubbish the island's capital poured into it. Shark, barracuda, giant eels and a host of unpleasant creatures—my diving partner seemed quite unconcerned—cast their menacing shadows.

But it was in St Lucia in the Windward Islands that I first experienced the incomparable beauty of tropical diving.

On the surface the sun made the edge of the rubber boat almost too hot to sit on. The neoprene wet suit essential in Shetland to preserve a few thermals of body heat was worn purely as protection against coral scratches. It was a sensual relief to roll over the side of the boat and sink into the cool depths.

With lazy fin swipes we sank deeper, feeling the increasing pressure on ear drums and gulping to

clear the discomfort. The water that sunlight filtered down to us 40 feet beneath the polished silver roof that marked the surface. We soared above a steep wall of brilliantly coloured, weirdly patterned coral enjoying the weightlessness of inner space, the water so invisible it seemed not to exist.

Nor were we alone. The sea was alive with a million creatures; lugubrious guppies that hung watching us in space, territorially minded angel fish that squared up to our face masks and bravely attacked them; a vast cloud of tiny silver fish that moved in one regimented mass, all turning on the same instant with the precision of a Venetian blind.

It was a new and spellbinding world in which it would be easy for a diver to forget such worldly items as time, air, and depths.

Another assignment was to report from the active end of a new world length record for submarine cave exploration which took place in the Blue Holes of Andros in the Bahamas.

We swam down a vertical shaft in the seabed and then into a horizontal passage running deep beneath the solid bed of the ocean, a lightless tunnel filled with a sucking tide and inhabited only by blind fish. I interviewed the new world champion at the bottom of the ocean as he rested during decompression, writing my questions on a slate for him to answer.

How did he feel? Answer, Knackered.

It was, of course, one of those eccentric sports at which British excel. By contrast was the dive on New Year's day on a Crannog in Loch Tay. Fresh water is cold at the best of times. In early January it was marrow chilling despite the layers of wool beneath my dry suit. It was a brief dive around the mounds of ancient protective earth works that early dwellers had built, each layer slowly sinking into the lake bed and forming a foundation for the next.

There was no lingering that day because the water stuck numbing needles into every area of exposed skin. My partner's nose was blue and we returned to the surface no faster, of course, than our slowest bubble.

Information: Aspiring divers are well advised to qualify through the British Sub-Aqua Club (BSAC) or the Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) both of which set high standards. Although scuba diving is essentially a relaxed and relatively straight forward activity, when anything goes wrong panic arrives more swiftly than in probably any other adventure sport. This means that thorough training is profoundly necessary.

Residential diving courses are organised at Fort Bovisand Underwater Centre, Plymouth, Devon PL9 0AB (Tel. 0752 408021). Details of other centres are available from the British Sub-Aqua Club, 16 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 0QW. Tel 01-387 8302. A five day novice course at Fort Bovisand costs £250 including accommodation and all equipment and leads to the internationally recognised World Underwater Federation qualification. A set of basic diving equipment costs about £500, although you are advised to "test the water" and make sure the sport is definitely for you before making the investment.

Improving the stormy picture

WEATHER EYE

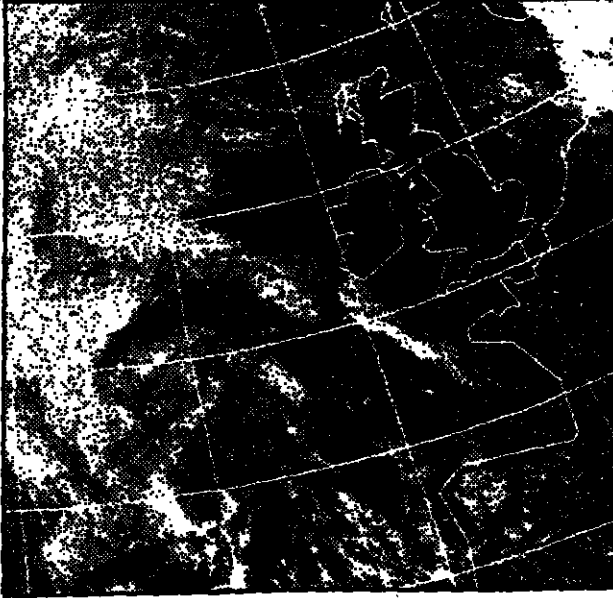
The recent widespread coverage of the anniversary of last year's "great storm" has said little about the problems of obtaining better weather data.

Following the critical reports of the Met Office's forecasting performance, the current concern is about the problems of bringing its new supercomputer into operation. Yet, as was recognized at the time, the principal cause of the failure to forecast the intensity and path of the storm was inadequate weather data.

A fundamental problem of all weather forecasting using computers is to form a realistic picture of the current global atmospheric state, which is the starting point for running the model into the future.

This initial state is built up from a wide range of sources. These include ground stations, satellite soundings and other air measurements using balloon-borne sensors. In addition, measurements from ships, aircraft and drifting buoys supplement the information flow.

In spite of the huge amount of data collected the overall picture is at best patchy. The ground station and balloon-borne measurements are concentrated over the land masses



The Equinox weather forecast for April 17, 1988, the eve of Good Friday, which was good with warm, hazy conditions of the northern hemisphere.

This leaves huge gaps over the oceans, especially in the southern hemisphere.

A much more complete global coverage is provided by orbiting weather satellites. But these provide observations only every 12 hours and so are liable to miss rapidly developing weather systems like the great storm. Moreover they cannot probe beneath the clouds and so provide little

A measure of the importance of improved measurements is found in the post mortem of the forecast of the great storm. The night before the storm struck, readings from commercial airliners approaching the British Isles from the US failed to make the deadline for inclusion in the detailed model which provides the major input into forecasts up to 24 hours ahead. Because these aircraft were flying over the region where the storm was developing they contained crucial information about its potential development.

When subsequently the forecasts were run with the small number of additional observations, the model produced a dramatically improved prediction of the strength and path of the storm.

For the future while bigger, faster computers and more extensive ground-based observations will lead to improved forecasts, better satellite measurements may be the only solution to the data problem. New systems planned for the 1990s will carry microwave sensors that will be able to probe beneath the clouds. This should reduce the risk of meteorologists being caught out quite so badly in the future.

W.J. Burroughs

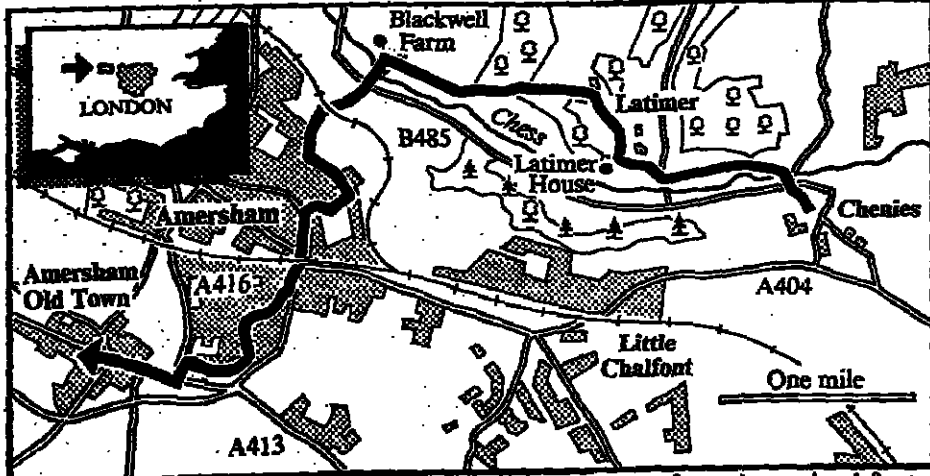
A crisp turn for a fine winter's day

WEEKEND WALK

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE: Amersham and the Chess Valley. Distance Six miles. The Chess valley is a particularly delightful on a crisp, sunny winter day and strolling in such quiet and tranquil surroundings it is difficult to believe that the frenetic roar of the M25 is so close. The River Chess is clear and pure enough to support trout. This walk takes you up the Chess valley then over a chalk ridge into the Midsbury valley with a stretch of Metroland thrown in.

Start on the green in the Duchy of Bedford estate village of Chesham with its medieval church and splendid Tudor brick manor house which is occasionally open to the public and well worth visiting. Head north-west out of the village, turning right onto the Flaunden road past Dods Mill.

Cross the river and turn left to follow the footpath along the north or Hertfordshire bank of the Chess. The path heads west and away from the river bank. Note on the left the



overgrown remnants of the old village church of Flaunden.

Reaching the road turn right to the charming hamlet of Latimer. Left at the village green head uphill, passing the gates to Latimer House. Soon, beyond new housing on the left, cross a new stile and head west, keeping the wood on your left. Go through another wood and out into fields towards Blackwell Farm, which is a fine timber-framed medieval house.


At the road turn left to recross the river. Go across the B485 onto the footpath up the hill, under the railway and turn left. The path emerges at Stubbs End Close. Turn left at Quill Hall Lane, then right into Springett Place emerging onto Plantation Road.

Turn left until a roundabout, under the railway bridge, then right. The road turns left and shortly you turn right into Stanley Hill Avenue, Metroland. After about a quarter of a mile fork left onto

a footpath, turning left at a footpath junction. This leads to Highover Park, a road with several International Modern 1930s flat-roofed concrete houses.

Turn left onto Station Road. At the roundabout turn right and walk into the superb brick-fronted market town of Amersham with its church noted for good monuments. The town is now by-passed so one can enjoy its qualities in relative peace and quiet.

Alan Franks


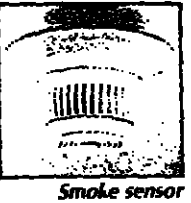


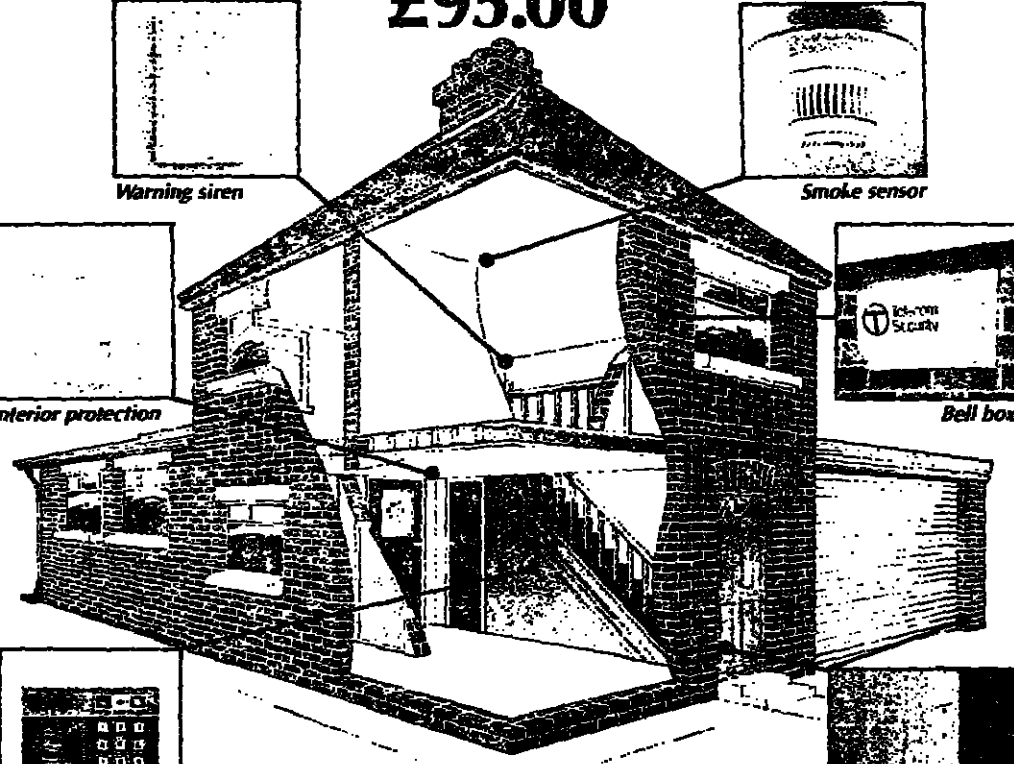
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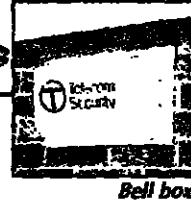
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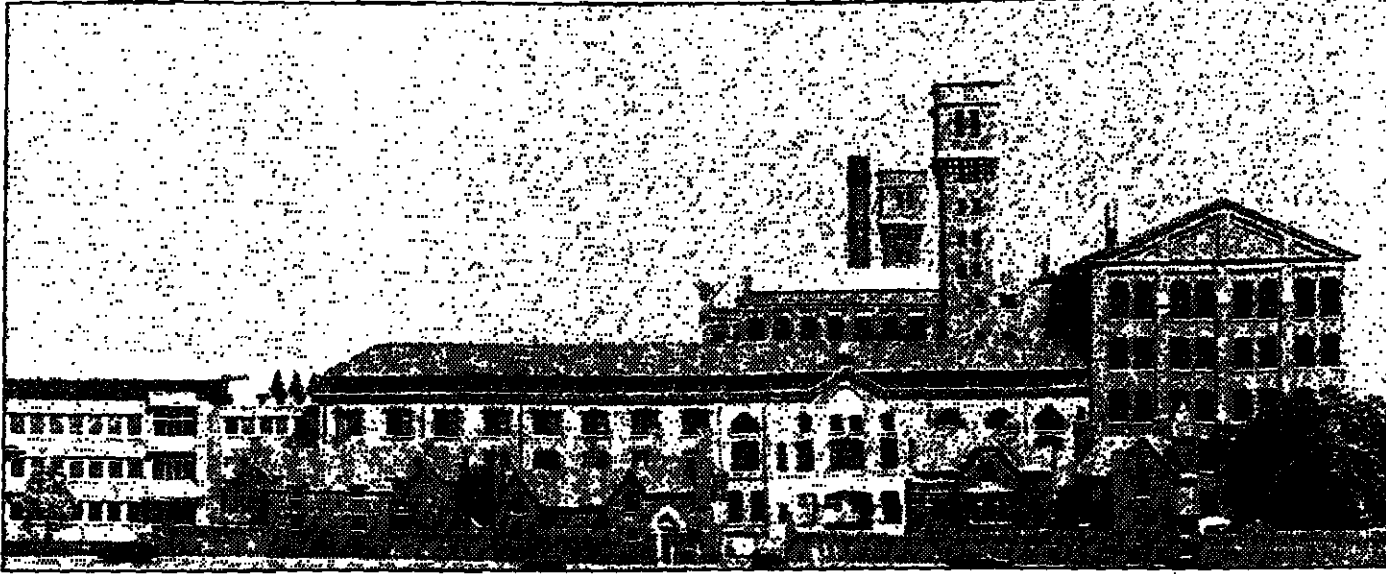
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PROPERTY

Scene of peace in place of strife



Nineteenth century: lunchtime at the Bryant & May match factory



Twentieth century: model of the Kentish Homes development, showing how the old main building has been retained

A factory in Bow, in the East End of London, which was the scene of the celebrated match girls' strike against their employers Bryant & May 100 years ago, has undergone a complete transformation. The fine Victorian listed buildings of the factory, which closed in 1979, have been converted to provide 600 apartments in more than six acres of grounds.

The main building of the Fairfield Works, with its red-brick towers and large windows, forms the core of the development. Surrounding listed buildings, rows of cottages and stone archways are

also being restored. They are to be complemented by new buildings reflecting the grandeur of the original architecture. The whole scheme has been designed by the architects ORMS as a self-contained environment.

It has its own streets, four landscaped courtyards, ponds and fountains, and every square has been given its own particular character to create a cosmopolitan neighbourhood, or quarter. Hence its new name - the Bow Quarter.

The restored and transformed factory is a far cry from the scene in 1888. During the 1870s the Bryant &

May factory had become the largest producer of matches in Britain. When it closed in 1979 it was turning out more than 50,000 million matches every year.

What ended in the strike began with an article in June 1888 by Annie Besant, editor of a left-wing publication, *The Link*, in which she described some of the appalling working conditions at the factory. The girls worked from 6.30am to 6pm with limited breaks, earning only 4s a week. They were fined for such offences as talking, arriving for work with dirty feet, or setting matches alight in error.

Four girls who were sus-

pected of providing Besant with the information were sacked at the beginning of July, provoking 1,400 workers to go on strike and march on Fleet Street. Through the press and organized meetings, Besant appealed for national support. And with help from the Women Trade Union League and the Fabian Society, the girls were then formed into the Matchmakers' Union, while negotiations began with the employers for improved working conditions.

The strike aroused enormous support from the public, who with other unions raised sufficient money to enable the strike to continue, forcing the

employers to make concessions before the girls returned to work.

The stoppage is reputed to be the first organized strike of women workers in the East End, and was a contributing factor to the growing strength of feminism in the latter part of the 19th century. It is generally accepted that the success of the strike helped to fuel the spread of trade unionism in east London, the City and Docklands. In Docklands, trade unionism became so strong that eventually shipyards moved north, where unionism was less rife and labour cheaper.

From this historic backdrop

the Bow Quarter is emerging to provide a different form of social and environmental change, in what is thought to be the largest and most complex residential conversion undertaken in Britain. It is certainly the most ambitious scheme carried out by Kentish Homes, whose developments include the fashionable Docklands schemes at Cascades and Burrell's Wharf.

The Bow Quarter is an example of Kentish Homes' commitment to the regeneration of urban and inner city land, and is intended to fill the need for accommodation at the lower end of the market. Prices for the first 68 homes

range from £60,000 to £105,000 for the studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments. At the same time it will contain leisure and fitness facilities normally associated with more expensive developments.

The facilities will include a "leisure pavilion" with swimming pool and gymnasium, a multi-surface sports rink for ice-skating and other activities, and an outdoor swimming pool.

In many of the apartments the Victorian architecture provides 15ft ceilings and 10ft high windows, and the design includes galleries studios and conservatories.

The first apartments in the scheme, which is to have its public launching next Saturday, are due for completion in June. As inducements for quick purchase Kentish Homes is offering a £250 voucher and will pay all legal fees and stamp duty.

Keith Preston, Kentish Homes' managing director, points out that the problems of first-time buyers and the neglect of our inner cities dominate the news, and says: "At the Bow Quarter, we are attempting to address both issues by building exciting but affordable homes with extensive leisure facilities on redundant industrial land."

Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

New hope in rural land tax battle

The Country Landowners Association (CLA) has again formally asked Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to change the system under which tax is charged on the assumed value of land sold to rural housing associations rather than on the sale figures.

If land is sold at agricultural rates for housing association development, the theoretical value is often many thousands of pounds more than the vendor receives for it. The theoretical value, however, is what counts for Capital Gains and Inheritance Tax calculations, and this can mean heavy tax liabilities.

The system, maintains the CLA, deters owners from selling land cheaply to housing associations, which are often the only means young people in rural areas have of stepping on to the property ladder.

Gordon Lee-Steele, the CLA president, says: "Great strain is being placed on rural communities by the dramatic increase in housing costs, and I believe that rural housing associations offer a long-term solution to the problem of keeping communities intact."

"Many more landowners would be prepared to back the housing associations if the capital tax system charged tax by reference to the actual sale price rather than on the theoretical market value of the land."

The CLA has lobbied against this aspect of taxation for several years, making representations to the Chancellor before every Budget.

It has approached Mr Lawson this time with more hope. The chief taxation officer has already had discussions with Treasury officials, and the CLA claims support from district councils in rural areas, church leaders, and "groups of people with interests in the social structure of the countryside", including the National Agricultural Centre Rural Trust.

Politicians backing the campaign include Peter Temple-Morris, Conservative MP for Leominster.

Brian Collett



Girls at work: drawing from the Illustrated London News, showing employees in the factory in 1888



Girls on strike: already members of the new union

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GARDENING

Kew: the draughtsman's contract

The young man who drew the vine below was part of a great tradition of botanical painting. As Richard Mabey reports, he died for his art



Kew's rise to prominence as a centre for the study and celebration of flowers came about more or less accidentally. Until Sir Joseph Banks took control in 1772 it had grown haphazardly, with no real sense of itself as a "botanic" garden. There was little method in its occasional forays into plant illustration. Yet from its earliest days Kew had an aura of floristic enterprise and taste which provided a fertile atmosphere in which botanical painting could flourish. There was, to begin with, the physical setting, in a leafy village by the side of the Thames with a history of fine gardens. There was the growing 18th-century association between garden design, landscape painting and "naturalism" in poetry. There were the rich patrons, including the Royal Family and the court intellectuals. And there were the talented and the simply hopeful, the scholars and scientists, the ambitious young gardeners down from the north and the wandering European artists. Banks believed unquestioningly that Britain's destiny was as the major civilizing influence in the world. Kew would play its part in harnessing science and imperial progress. He began commissioning plant-hunting

expeditions, and wherever possible he tried to ensure that there was a botanical artist on the ship's complement.

The artists whom he dispatched were, for the most part, the young sons of artisans, and self-taught as painters. One such was Sydney Parkinson, selected by Banks for the voyage of Captain Cook's ship the Endeavour, which was to culminate in the historic landing in Australia in 1768.

Parkinson was born around 1745 in Selkirk, the son of a Quaker brewer. He was apprenticed to a wool draper, and may perhaps have gone through some kind of training at De La Cour's drawing school in Edinburgh, set up principally to improve the quality of design in textile manufacture. In his spare time he painted watercolours, especially of flowers.

When Parkinson was about 20 his father died, and he and his mother moved to London. There, he visited Kew regularly and in 1767 was introduced to Banks. At first he was asked to sketch some of the zoological specimens Banks had brought back from an expedition to Labrador. By the end of the year he had been offered the post of botanical illustrator on the Endeavour.

He was joining a select company. The scientific party was nine strong, and included Banks himself, Alexander



RHODODENDRON EDGEWORTHII
A white rhododendron from the Himalayas. Lithograph from a drawing by Joseph Hooker (1817-1911). During his Himalayan expeditions in search of rare plants in 1848-9, he endured avalanches, floods, earthquakes and plagues of leeches

Buchan, a landscape artist, and Dr Daniel Solander, a distinguished pupil of Linnaeus and at that time assistant at the British Museum.

When the Endeavour set sail in August 1768, Parkinson was 23 years old. A self-portrait painted in this year shows a thin, pale-faced young man with large eyes and full lips — a Puritan lightly brushed with sensuality.

He had no experience of overseas travel but he must have been aware of the problems. He would have to cope not just with the rigours of painting under pressure, of intolerable heat and fading colours, but with a world that might be beyond his ken.

Along with Banks and Cook, Parkinson kept his own journal of the Endeavour's voyage. It is a lively, independent record which shows him to have been a perceptive and inquisitive man. He had an interest in native customs and language, which he recorded without any moralizing. His censures are chiefly reserved for his fellow crewmen, for their drinking and their licentiousness.

He describes the daily routine on board the Endeavour: "We had a suitable stock of books relating to the natural history of the Indies with us; and seldom was there a storm strong enough to break up our normal study time, which

lasted daily from nearly 8 o'clock in the morning until 2 in the afternoon. From 4 or 5, when the cabin has lost the odour of food, we sat till dark by the great table... and made rapid descriptions of all the details of natural history while our specimens were still fresh."

Then the descriptions were logged in the journal and the plant specimens pressed. But Parkinson's work often went on much later than he describes. In Australia he made 94 drawings in just 14 days, and a member of the crew noted that he "frequently sat up all night drawing for himself, or writing his journal".

Sketching on shore could be even more arduous. In Tahiti he was repeatedly tormented by flies, and all kinds of devices were tried to deter them: "...none succeed better than a mosquito net which covers chair, painter and drawings, but even that is not sufficient, a fly trap was necessary to set within this to attract the vermin from eating the colours. For that purpose yesterday tarr and molasses was mixt together but did not succeed."

There was, however, a more sombre reason for Parkinson's heavy workload. Shortly after the Endeavour reached Tahiti, the landscape painter died following a severe epileptic fit, and Parkinson had to cope with Buchan's duties as well as his own. From that point he turned his hand to every kind of subject — fish, canoes, native costumes, shoreline profiles, dancing girls, even tattoos, of which he made some splendid, full-bodied studies. His two swift sketches of kangaroos — an animal which had been seen by only a handful of Europeans — are wonderfully lifelike and lively. Parkinson himself died of dysentery in Java early in 1771, a few months before the Endeavour returned to London. He was 26. He had, over the two-and-a-half-year voyage, made 955 botanical drawings, 280 of which were in colour, complete with botanical notes.

Soon after the ship's return, Banks recruited a team of painters to produce finished watercolours from Parkinson's sketches. Matters proceeded as far as the making of plates and the pulling of black and white proofs. Then Banks lost interest, and publication was abandoned.

The plates languished in the British Museum until a black and white edition in two volumes was published in 1905-8. A selection of plates was issued in the 1980s, when a private publishing firm



PAPHIOPEDILUM CILIOLARE
Undated watercolour by Joanna A. Langhorne, painted for Curtis's Botanical Magazine, founded in 1841 as a showcase for Kew artists, relaunched in 1984 as the Kew Magazine

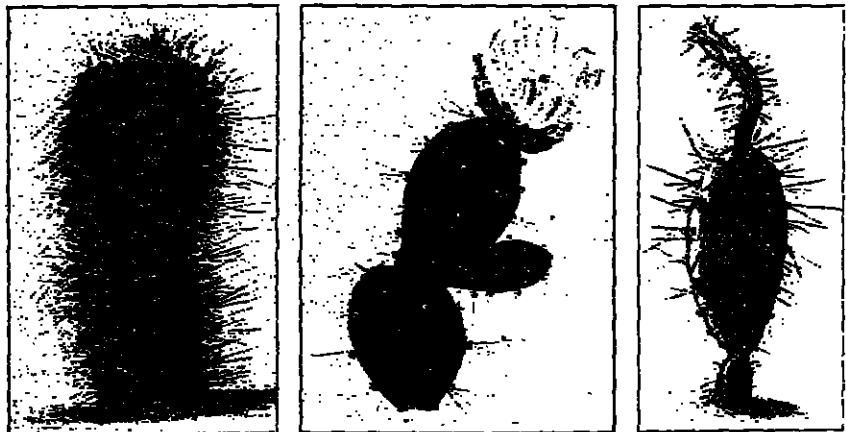


CORYANTHES SPECTOSA
Mexican orchid. Lithograph from a painting by Miss S. A. Drake of a plant which was probably the first of its species to flower in Europe. It blossomed in Wandsworth in 1842

MAMMILLARIA SPECTABILIS
Cactus (right), one of a large genus, with 100 species, most of them from Mexico. Watercolour by T. Duncanson, 1824

BARKERIA SPECTABILIS
An orchid (centre) from Central America, shown in a lithograph from 1842

ONCIDIUM ORNITHORHYNCHUM
Beaked Oncidium (far right), a Guatemalan orchid. From paintings by Miss S. A. Drake, 1830s



VICTORIA AMAZONICA
The Giant Water Lily of the Amazon, whose leaves can grow 6ft wide and support a child's weight. Its flowers are sometimes 15in wide. Colour lithograph by W. Sharp, 1854. The lily was not successfully cultivated in Europe until 1849

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